THE GATEWAY

volume XCIV number 33 • the official student newspaper at the university of alberta • www.gateway.ualberta.ca • thursday, 10 february, 2005

Gov't freezes tuition

ERIK JACOBS
News Writer

After years of lobbying by the student unions across the province, and university administrations pleading with the province to provide more funds, Ralph Klein stepped up on Tuesday and announced a fully funded, one-year tuition freeze.

The announcement, which was made during the premier's televised annual fireside chat, indicated that the provincial government will pay the equivalent of the tuition increases for the 2005/06 academic year, at a cost of approximately $43 million. The announcement also stated that 60 000 new postsecondary student spaces will be created by 2020—15 000 of them in the next three years and called for a review of the affordability of postsecondary education. Any reforms that come out of the review are to be in place by September 2006.

> "A tuition freeze is something that student leaders have been pushing for a number of years."
>
> **ALEX ABBOUD, SU VICE-PRESIDENT (EXTERNAL)**

"A tuition freeze is something that student leaders have been pushing for a number of years," said Alex Abboud, Students' Union vice-president (external) and chair of the Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS).

"What the premier announced, the tuition freeze and the review of accessibility and affordability, is the exact policy that our provincial lobby group, the Council of Alberta University Students, have been lobbying for."

U of A Provost and Vice-President (Academic) Dr Carl Amrhein emphasized that the government's plan calls for a rebate, not a tuition freeze.

"It's a rebate in that the government will pay for the tuition increase," he said.

Earlier this year, there was discussion of increased university funding by the province. A $500 education bursary to each new Albertan baby is one initiative, but further details of funding plans are not currently available.

PLEASE SEE TUITION FREEZE • PAGE 4



LEANNE FONG

WHAT? IT'S VALENTINE'S DAY In celebration of the sexiest day of the year, turn to page 11 for the *Gateway*'s eleventh annual Purity Test. Take the test, tally up your score, and compare it with your friends, family, and the poor *Gateway* editors and volunteers who were forced into taking it by a certain malevolent managing editor. Then use your score to get yourself a date, and remember: this is the only day of the year reading this newspaper will help your love life.

Student files human rights complaint against International Centre

COSANNA PRESTON
Senior News Editor

A student at the University of Alberta is filing a human rights complaint claiming she was unjustly rejected from an exchange opportunity due to her disability.

In September 2003, Sonia Gupta, who is blind, was nominated to take part in an exchange to Uppsala University in Sweden. She said planning progressed relatively smoothly until January 2004 when Rania El Saadi replaced Judith Ellis as the study abroad exchange advisor at the International Centre. Gupta noted that communication quickly became strained. Six months later, on 1 June, 2004, Barry Tonge, the director of education abroad notified Gupta that her nomination had been revoked.

The revocation letter stated that sending Gupta on an exchange would likely result in problems for both Gupta and the host, Uppsala University, explaining, "You continually come into conflict with the people and offices that you come into contact with."

Though not stated in the letter, Gupta maintains that the revocation was due to her unwillingness to work with Specialized Support and Disability Services (SSDS) in the preparation and execution of her exchange.

"The basic point of it all is I was given an ultimatum by the International Centre; more specifically Barry Tonge and Rania El Saadi, the exchange advisor, said that I can't go on exchange to Sweden if SSDS isn't involved," said Gupta.

> "The basic point of it all is I was given an ultimatum by the International Centre; more specifically Barry Tonge and Rania El Saadi, the exchange advisor, said that I can't go on exchange to Sweden if SSDS isn't involved."
>
> **SONIA GUPTA, HUMAN RIGHTS COMPLAINANT**

Gupta's refusal to work with SSDS was due to a negative working relationship in the past. She felt that SSDS wasn't providing the services she needed in a proper and timely manner. Having been on a summer exchange and learned from the difficult experience, she felt she was in a better position to coordinate directly with the disability offices at Uppsala to arrange her accommodations. Gupta was offended that the University would consider her a liability due to her disability and that it would attempt to force her to use a service that had to be paid for, especially since she was unhappy with it.

"[The ombudsman] told me that the University does not have the right to commit caution on behalf of the student. Basically that means that no one can say to me, or any student, 'You must do this because it's for your own good,'" explained Gupta.

The ombudsman could not comment due to Students' Union policy and the private nature of the service.

"I know the University could say that this is some sort of risk management, but this idea that a student [with a disability] is some sort of liability, it's just wrong. It's segregating me in a way that isn't right, against my able-bodied peers," Gupta added.

PLEASE SEE COMPLAINT • PAGE 5

Gov't to give education grant to babies

MEGHAN POTKINS
News Writer

A recently announced postsecondary grant for Albertan babies is being met with mixed reviews on campus.

The plan, announced on 26 January, is part of Alberta's centennial celebrations and will give Albertan parents $500 toward a Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP) for children born in 2005 or later. It's expected to incite parents to start saving earlier for their child's education.

Additional grants of $100 may be available if parents re-apply to the program once their children reach the ages of eight, eleven and 14.

Provost and University Vice-President (Academic) Dr Carl Amrhein is optimistic about the announcement of the Alberta Centennial Education Savings Plan (ACES).

"As a parent, my boys are just getting ready to go to university. I think this sends a wonderful message to parents to start early," said Amrhein.

But, Amrhein was quick to add that funding is needed, in addition to tuition freeze, to solve universities' current financial woes.

PLEASE SEE BABIES • PAGE 2

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Stop selling me sex

As much as we all love sex, it's a lousy way to get you to vote. Adam Rozenhart explains why in today's editorial.

OPINION, PAGE 7



Rolling Thunderbirds

This weekend the Bears hockey team hosts the UBC Thunderbirds, who come to town on a hot streak.

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THE GATEWAY

thursday, 10 feburary, 2005
volume XCIV number 33

Published since 21 november, 1910
Circulation 10 000
ISSN 0845-356X

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THE GATEWAY is published by the Gateway Student Journalism Society (GSJS), a student-run, autonomous, apolitical not-for-profit organization, operated in accordance with the Societies Act of Alberta.

THE GATEWAY is proud to be a founding member of the Canadian University Press.

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colophon

The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers, Umax PowerLook 1000 flatbed scanners, and a Nikon Super Cool Scan optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of Frutiger, **Kepler**, **Ivanova**, and **Aroma**. The Gateway's games of choice are *Metal Gear Solid 3* and the Wolfenstein demo. Can't talk now, time to kill more Nazis.

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Critics concerned $500 education bursary not wise

BABIES • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"We're hoping the government announces quite a substantial increase to close the core operating budget gaps that we've been talking about for so long. For us that's about $48.7 million," he said.

Critics of the plan wonder if the program's projected cost of $20 million a year, which will swell to $30 million by 2019, is being spent wisely.

SU President Jordan Blatz expressed mixed feelings about ACES.

"Absolutely we should help students born today have access to one of the best education systems available, but don't forget about students right now," said Blatz.

"With the rising cost of postsecondary education, I worry that it won't be long before $500 won't even cover the cost of a textbook," he added.

Recently, the University's Board of Governors voted in favour of a 5.75 per cent tuition increase for next year. But the tuition freeze will cover next year's hike.

Considering that, Amrhein is optimistic about ACES.

"This [ACES] is a wonderful way to celebrate the centennial. It's the first of hopefully many announcements in the next several months that will also address the concerns of the SU and the concerns we share with the SU as far as today's funding goes," said Amrhein.



FILE PHOTO: MATT FREHNER

BABY MONEY SU President Blatz wonders if a bursary could be better spent.

COUNCIL FORUM

Compiled by Ross Prusakowski

HEALTH PLAN GOES TO REFERENDUM

Elections were in the air as Council once again grappled with the wording and merit behind the referendum questions.

While the question surrounding the proposed health plan was accepted after minor modifications, Council spent considerable time on the question regarding a new levy to construct a new physical activity complex.

Business Councilor Steve Smith and others raised concerns regarding the lack of research and planning on the part of the dean of the faculty of physical education and recreation who initially presented the proposal to Council.

"The faculty [of physical education and recreation] has either lied to Council or provided Council with false information," said Smith.

Information came to light that the University's board of governors—who would be levying the fee—would not be legally bound by any parts of the proposed question.

It was also noted that the proposal had yet to go through the appropriate University process for new buildings. A vote of 20–12 decided to postpone the question indefinitely.

OTHER COUNCIL HAPPENINGS:

• Council approved a recommendation from the Eugene L Brody committee, the charitable arm of the Students' Union, to grant Free the Children a sum of $10 000 from the Brody Fund to build a primary school in Africa.

• Vice-President (External) Alex Abboud announced that Premier Ralph Klein, during his annual fireside chat, promised a tuition freeze for the 2005/06 academic year.

1000 Apologies

In volume XCIV, issue 32 of the Gateway, published on 8 February 2005 in the article entitled, "Students hope to 'deconstruct' racial steroptypes, segregation," the name Jackie Ferner was erroneously reported as Jackie Fernie. The Gateway apologizes for this error

STREETERS

Valentine's Day is around the corner and that means it is time for the *Gateway*'s annual Purity Test.

What's the most impure thing you've ever done?



Alan Smithee
Science IV

I was in an ethics class for philosophy and I cheated on a test. I did okay and haven't been caught ... yet.



Lydia Vincent
Arts III

When I was in Greece, I cliff-dived topless for beer.



Jessica Maude
Business III

Road signs. I love the road signs. I'm not going to say how, but they go missing all over campus.



Justyna Kucmierz
Arts III

I got really drunk at a friend's party and I passed out in her bedroom. Then I threw up all over myself and the next morning I couldn't remember anything and my friend had to throw out the sheets.

Compiled and photographed by Scott C Bourgeois, Tyson Kaban and Iris Tse



Cure for aging could be near: scientist

Cambridge scientist predicts that 'rejuvenation methods' could increase the human lifespan and halt the aging process

CAITLIN CRAWSHAW
News Editor

If Cambridge scientist Aubrey de Grey's radical predictions are correct, within 30 to 100 years, science will have a cure for aging.

The theoretical bio-gerontologist will visit the University of Alberta campus on Tuesday, 15 February at 12:30 in Medical Sciences, to speak on what he calls "rejuvenation therapies," treatments to keep humans alive for thousands of years.

"We will be able to live indefinitely," predicted de Grey.

But, he is quick to note that this isn't the same as living forever. Gerontology—the study of aging—is not often studied with the desire to ward off what has long been seen as an inevitable end to human life. Due to the likelihood of accident, de Grey said a person will die eventually, regardless of anti-aging therapies.

"One's life will inevitably end ... [but] it'll end by being hit by a truck, rather than by getting frail and miserable," de Grey noted dryly.

He added that a person would presumably be around 5000 years of age when the accident happened.

De Grey, a self-taught biologist and former computer scientist, is one of a few scientists who believe that with the right medical interventions, human beings could avoid aging entirely.

He has theorized that aging in humans is caused by molecular and cellular damage that accumulates in the body over time (the by-products of basic processes like digestion).

> "One's life will inevitably end ... [but] it'll end by being hit by a truck, rather than by getting frail and miserable."
>
> **AUBREY DE GREY, CAMBRIDGE SCIENTIST**

By limiting the buildup of these by-products, which are only harmful to the body in high quantities, de Grey suspects people can thwart the aging process and live young, vibrant lives for thousands of years.

Currently, scientists are working to find ways of making mice live far beyond their typical life expectancies. To speed up the process, de Grey helped establish the Methuselah Foundation to support scientists working in this area. The organization offers the Methuselah Mouse Prize (referred to as the "M-Prize"), a cash award given to scientists who can engineer the oldest mice.

It's de Grey's view that within ten years, scientists will have a cure for aging in mice, which can then be developed in humans. And once this happens, society's opinions on the research will dramatically change.

"I think that sort of result will be enough to convince society that we can actually do something about aging in humans fairly soon, and that will change everything," he argued.

"Because then, people will suddenly abandon those stupid ambivalences about overpopulation and inequality and the garbage that people talk."

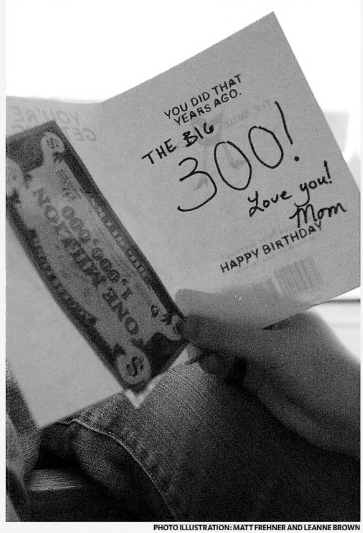


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: MATT FREHNER AND LEANNE BROWN

IMMORTALITY? Dr Aubrey de Grey may make humans live forever.

Although the project will be an expensive enterprise, de Grey isn't concerned.

"So is the war in Iraq, and that didn't take much," he said.

While the thought of avoiding the aches and pains of growing older is appealing, U of A developmental geneticist Dr David Pilgrim isn't convinced that de Grey's predictions are likely.

"I think he's optimistic. Remember, we were supposed to be flying those little cars around like the Jetsons. Well you know, Arthur C Clarke made a lot of predictions in *2001: A Space Odyssey* and George Orwell with *1984*. Those dates have come and gone, and the world that they predicted was not exactly as they imagined," Pilgrim commented.

But while de Grey's theories may be reminiscent of science fiction, Pilgrim stressed they're well worth listening to. Scientists tend to be dogmatic, he notes, and inclined to "tow the party line."

"Science works best by letting people have ideas, letting those ideas be tested and then everyone gets a shot at them, and tries to say that they're wrong," said Pilgrim.

"And if they survive all of that criticism, it gets added to our body of knowledge. Almost every great idea in science has been poo-pooed by somebody."

He noted, however, that at this point, the experimentation backing de Grey's ideas has yet to "make a splash" in biology. But none of the other theories about why we age have sufficiently explained the phenomenon either, he added.

In addition to the scientific debate, de Grey's anti-aging science has raised questions about the social consequences of radically increasing the human lifespan.

If de Grey's predictions are correct, U of A sociologist Dr Herb Northcott wondered how humanity would avoid overpopulation.

"The population of the Earth would not stabilize; it would continue to expand, since you keep adding generations and you're not subtracting generations," he said.

To avoid this problem, the fertility rate would need to drop to zero to accommodate a lower mortality rate.

"It might be that the horsepeople of the apocalypse will ride into de Grey's scenario at some point, as the population continues to grow and we will once again be facing widespread starvation, disease, pestilence and/or war," Northcott warned.

He also wondered how happy people would be in such a world.

"As we get older, we get bored. We get jaded, disillusioned. We lose the enthusiasm for life and living," said Northcott.

"I don't know; do we want to face 5000 years of boredom and disenchantment? Or having to face that, would we find a way to rekindle that enchantment?"

> "Almost every great idea in science has been poo-pooed by somebody."
>
> **DR DAVID PILGRIM, U OF A GENETICIST**

De Grey is quick to respond to the questions about overpopulation, happiness and the assertions that he is "playing God."

"This is just one more way in which God made us in his own image, if you like," he said.

"Certainly we should do our best to [anticipate the consequences]. But what we have no right to do is to make a decision that restricts the choice of humanity in the future."

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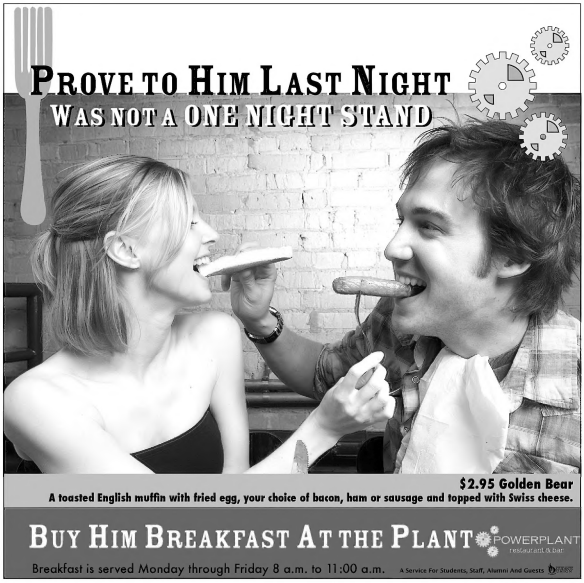
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STUDENTS' UNION



SU, admin call tuition freeze a 'good first step'

TUITION FREEZE • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"The 2005 budget isn't out yet, so there's still a process happening there in terms of setting the detailed figures as to what that will all mean," said Cameron Traynor, a spokesperson with the ministry of Advanced Education.

> "Obviously, we'd like to see a lower cost than current tuition levels are, as part of this proposal, as part of the new policy."
>
> **ALEX ABBOUD, SU VICE-PRESIDENT (EXTERNAL)**

Traynor indicated that the review of postsecondary education will not focus solely on tuition.

"The review won't just look at tuition, but it will look at all the factors that affect the cost of higher education: student finance bursaries, scholarships, and even things like access to higher education for people who live in rural and remote areas," he said.

Both Abboud and Amrhein emphasized the need to follow up the freeze with meaningful change to the funding of higher education in Alberta.

"What we'd like to see is the establishment of an independent committee that would review the cost of education, that would look into all the different possibilities, and would come back with a recommendation for a new tuition model or new tuition regulations," said Abboud.

"We'd like to see a lower cost than current tuition levels as part of this proposal, as part of the new policy."

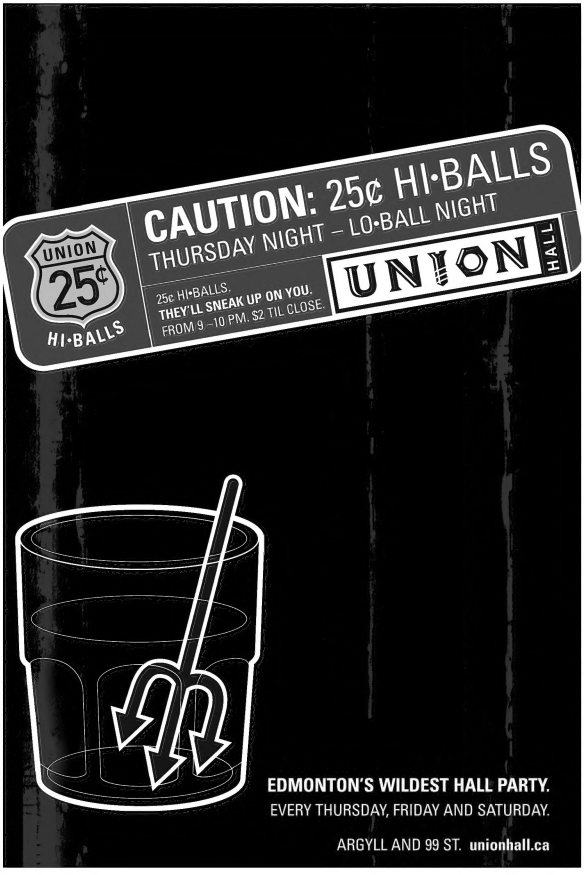
Amrhein indicated that while the plan is a step in the right direction, many questions remain unanswered.

"There are many, many questions that come to mind," he said.

"But, I think that what the government has done in a very generous way is pay the increase for the students in the year in which the study is conducted. And I think the premier was pretty crisp in that he wants it all wrapped up by September 2006."

Abboud shared Amrhein's view.

"I think the process [to create] a new tuition policy involves all the stakeholder groups, and most importantly students, and we'll be able to come up with a new policy," he said.





LAUREN JENNINGS

WHAT IS NEW YORK? Political science faculty, students square off in Jeopardy.

'Jeopardy' helps U of A's Model UN Club travel to New York

MEGHAN POTKINS
News Writer

Professors and graduate students from the department of political science gathered on Monday to compete for glory and bragging rights in a game of political science Jeopardy.

The game, held in the Humanities Centre on campus, was planned by the U of A's Model United Nations Club (UAMUN), which educates students about the operation of the United Nations through organized simulations.

The event raised $400 towards sending a 20-member delegation to New York to attend the National Model United Nations, the largest Model UN conference in the world.

The conference, which takes place at the United Nations headquarters in Manhattan, runs from 22 to 26 March and hosts 3100 students, approximately 50 per cent of whom are from outside the United States.

Competitors duked it out in categories ranging from geography and music to twelve-letter words, to the amusement of their students and colleagues alike.

Event organizers were pleased with the participation of the faculty members.

"The Jeopardy game was received incredibly well by the department, and generated a lot of enthusiasm," said organizer Laura Samaroo.

> "The Jeopardy game was received incredibly well by the department, and generated a lot of enthusiasm."
>
> **LAURA SAMAROO, U OF A POLITICAL SCIENCE STUDENT**

"The [political science] department is a really fun department to begin with and they were all really into the event and the grad students were really great," added coordinator Andrea Urquhart.

Model UN Club members were optimistic about the success of the event and responded positively to the suggestion of similar fundraising efforts in the future.

"I think attendance would increase if we conducted another event like this one, because people now know what to expect," said Samaroo.

International Centre considers SSDS crucial to exchange process

COMPLAINT • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

However, Tonge thought otherwise. Due to the responsibility of due diligence as a service provider, he said he requires that expertise be involved in the arrangements when a person with disability is travelling on exchange.

"There's a level of duty of care or due diligence that has to be performed by the University. I guess it comes down to that. ... The student has to go through certain processes to ensure a degree of duty of care and informed consent so that a student is prepared. Simply saying, 'I choose not to participate in the process but I want to be part of this program' isn't allowed; it's a quandary," said Tonge, who was unable to comment on the specific case due to Alberta's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

He explained that in the past when trying to arrange accommodation with another university, the terminology differed so greatly that there was confusion in what was required. Because of this and a recommendation from a commissioned report on disability and exchange, the International Centre turned to SSDS.

"We view SSDS as meeting a part of the requirement for us to feel confident sending a student abroad. If that could be met comfortably somewhere else, then absolutely. Could that be met by simply a student saying, 'I know, I'm confident I know,' I doubt very much to be honest," said Tonge.

He mentioned that he was not aware of a student who had refused to work with SSDS and successfully demonstrated they could arrange for all their own accommodations. While he admitted it could be possible he stressed he had not seen it done.

"And we have never rejected a student only because of their refusal to work with SSDS. We have never rejected based on that alone," he added.

Brian Mader, Gupta's government advisor who coordinates the funding for her disability services, felt the International Centre was in error to describe Gupta as a person who causes conflict, and was confident she could arrange her own accommodations if given the chance.

He noted that Gupta chose to coordinate her own accommodations this academic year and has met her own needs acquiring her materials in a timely fashion, substantially decreasing her disability-related costs.

"Sonia in my view is a very bright individual who knows her limitations, knows the support she needs and holds people accountable for delivering them. She approaches things seriously and she's assertive in doing that," said Mader, commenting that stating Gupta causes conflict is ascribing a negative descriptor to assertiveness.

"Anybody who stands up for themselves and meets a very rigid system will be viewed by a rigid system as conflict-oriented," he added.

The University of Alberta Office of Human Rights also could not comment directly on the case. However, Janet Smith, the director of the Office of Human Rights, explained that there is a shared responsibility for all parties involved in accommodation to discuss a workable solution.

"The courts have also said accommodation needs to be workable and reasonable but it isn't necessarily going to be ideal or perfect," said Smith, emphasizing that there is a responsibility of the person seeking accommodations to willingly participate in the accommodation dialogue.

Gupta argued she had done so by suggesting alternative methods in place of SSDS, but Tonge maintained that he had yet to see a student who had demonstrated the capability to successfully complete alternative arrangements.

Gupta plans to file her human rights complaint by the end of this week, at which point the parties will likely enter a mediation process.

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Edmonton logs on to 'online community'

The San Francisco-based Craig's List debuts in Edmonton for classifieds users

ALEXANDER WITT
News Writer

The next time you're looking for an apartment, band, or even a dead raccoon, scouring bulletin boards around campus won't be your only option.

On 25 January, the Edmonton version of the San Francisco-based Craig's List came online. The website, www.edmonton.craiglist.org, contains more than 100 categories of local classifieds to peruse, under categories like housing, personals, for sale, services, gigs, jobs and discussion forums.

Craig's List initially started in the San Francisco Bay Area as an e-mail list of events created by the website founder Craig Newmark for him and his friends. That original site now boasts 2.4 million visitors each month.

Ten years after the original Craig's List began, Edmonton is one of 92 cities, including Calgary, Montréal, Ottawa, Toronto, Vancouver and Winnipeg, to have a Craig's List site.

"We've had a lot of requests for an Edmonton site," said Jim Buckmaster, CEO of Craig's List.

According to Buckmaster, the site has been shaped by the demands of its visitors.

"Basically, we add whatever our users ask for," said Buckmaster.

He added that, unlike commercial sites, Craig's List doesn't include advertisements. Yet, apart from charging for job postings, other postings are free. In Buckmaster's view, the website is more than a classifieds listing, as it plays a role in community building.

"There is a sense of community that a lot of users express," said Buckmaster.

"How we can make a big business that we can sell or cash in on has never entered [Craig's] thinking."

As a new site, Buckmaster expects the use of Edmonton's Craig's List to grow slowly.

Although the site duplicates a few features of the Students' Union website, Alvin Law, SU vice-president (operations and finance), isn't worried.

"The SU's website offers a quality interface with the infrastructure to support the website locally," said Law.

He noted that the Housing Registry, developed at the U of A in collaboration with NAIT and boasting nearly 300 000 hits a year, is slightly different from what's offered on Craig's List. The SU Registry has since become a national program that accepts listings from landlords for a fee, and students seeking roommates at no charge.

"I don't know of any other program like it," said Law.

"We offer local support behind the Housing Registry, including information for prospective tenants," he added.

As for the SU website as a whole, it underwent reconstruction last year and a new "user-friendly" version debuted last November.

"If there is demand for a service, we discuss the feasibility of it, and if [it's feasible] it is implemented," Law said.

The exam registry, which has approximately 10 000 hits a year, and Bearscat, an alternative to the U of A's BearTracks, a course-registration site, are two other SU online innovations.

Still, your chances of finding a dead raccoon could be better on Craig's List than on Bearscat.

"There have been so many strange postings," said Buckmaster.

"There was someone wanting to trade a dead raccoon for one of the seasons of *The Sopranos* on DVD."



FILE PHOTO: JESSE WHITEHEAD

SU COMPETITION? The SU website can hold up to the new guys: Alvin Law.

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(or fill out an entry form at the HUB Mall office)
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1st Pampering for Two:
includes hair and body care products provided by Stylistics Salon, Spa and Product Outlet and matching men's and ladies watches - provided by Coca-Cola and HUB Mall Merchants.
Approx. value- $220.00
2nd Prize Pack for Two:
includes Coca-Cola retro clock, His and Her Coca-Cola jean shirts, and a romantic HUB Mall gift basket -provided by Coca-Cola and HUB Merchants.
Approx. value- $160.00
3rd Relaxation for Two
includes two 15 minute chair massages from Wellspring Health Centre & a polar bear afghan - provided by Coca-Cola and HUB Merchants.
Approx. value- $115.00
Cozy up to WIN!
Contest Details
When: Contest runs January 31 - February 14th, 2005. Contest closes February 14 th at 3pm sharp!
Who: Any full-time U of A student and University of Alberta Faculty and Staff
How to enter: Fill out this ad and bring it to HUB Mall to Enter, or fill out an entry form, available at the HUB Admin. office.
Where: Room #209, HUB Administration, 9am-3pm, Monday to Friday. No faxes or mail-ins will be accepted.
HUB Mall Convenient Campus Shopping

Notice of Referendum

On Tuesday, February 8, Students' Council voted to include the following binding referendum question on the ballot in the March 9 and 10 Students' Union election:

Do you support a new fee:

1. Establishing an undergraduate health care plan in accordance with the contract signed by Studentcare.net/works and the Students' Union.

2. (a) at an initial cost not to exceed $114 per student, per Fall and Winter term for 12 months of coverage, or;
(b) $76 per student enrolled in only the Winter term for eight months of coverage.

3. With an opt out for students who;
(a) demonstrate comparable coverage as outlined in the contract within the first four weeks of the Fall term;
(b) demonstrate they have ceased to be undergraduate students at the University of Alberta in the Winter term.

4. With an opt in clause for students enrolled in only the winter term or part time students.

5. With no opt out available to students who do not have comparable coverage as outlined in the contract.

6. That will expire August 31st, 2008.

If you would like to register as part of the Yes or No campaign for this referendum question you must attend the upcoming Candidates Meeting.

This meeting will be held on Thursday, February 17 at 6 PM on the 3rd Floor of SUB.

There will be a Health Plan information session held in the Alumni Room on Wednesday, February 16 at 5 PM. Students interested in participating in a referendum side should attend.

For more information about how to register for a referendum side, please email the Chief Returning Officer at cro@su.ualberta.ca.

Hundreds of students protest tuition at University of Manitoba

ROBERT KOTYK
Central Bureau Chief



COURTESY OF THE *MANITOBAN*

KEEP THE FREEZE Students march in Winnipeg to keep the tuition Freeze.

WINNIPEG (CUP)—Postsecondary students from across the province gathered by the hundreds on 2 February at the University of Manitoba to march in favour of lower tuition fees and increased federal funding for education.

The rally, called the Day of Action, was organized by student unions from around Manitoba and was directed toward both the provincial and federal governments.

University of Manitoba Students' Union Vice-President Cathy Van De Kerckhove explained the dual purpose behind the rally.

"It just shows that students are strong supporters of keeping the [tuition] freeze and therefore having accessibility to postsecondary education, which is a right to all," she said.

"It also shows support for getting Prime Minister Paul Martin to keep his promise that he made in the last federal election campaign of the dedicated transfer payments so that provinces can afford to fund universities."

Currently, tuition fees in Manitoba are frozen at 1999 levels, but University administrators have been pushing the government to lift the freeze.

About 1000 students arrived on campus in the afternoon, some of them bused from various locales around Winnipeg. Once the march began, organizers distributed hot dogs to those in attendance, while students lined the steps of the University of Manitoba's administration building.

"I have another four years of university and I already have debts, so if it increases any more that's how much longer I have to pay off my debts," said University of Winnipeg political science student Reynold Fast, one of the protesters who arrived courtesy of the pre-arranged transportation.

Although tuition is technically frozen in Manitoba, the University administrators raised tuition fees for international undergraduate students in September.

Jillian Wolfe, a Masters student at the Collège Universitaire de Saint-Boniface, is enrolled in a program that is entirely self-directed, but still pays what she thinks is too much.

"I'm so poor," she said.

"I actually don't have any instruction from professors and I'm still paying over $2000 a year."

Jesse Finlay, a student at the University of Manitoba, maintained that the province should take heed of the marchers' message.

"I work two full-time jobs and I still just barely make enough to pay tuition and books and parking," he said.

"[The government has] to take a second look if they see this many voters protesting."

During the rally, several speakers, including Minister of Advanced Education Diane McGifford, addressed the crowd. Despite cries from the audience, McGifford would not say if the government plans to keep the freeze.

Van De Kerckhove, however, hoped the government would take notice of the amount of students in attendance. It's "strength in numbers," she said.

"The more people you have out showing support for something, the more the government's going to stand up and listen."

US textbook prices outpace inflation: study

PATRICK SKEEHAN
The Hoya

WASHINGTON (CUP)—College textbook prices across the United States have increased at nearly four times the rate of inflation over the past eleven years, according to a study released last month.

The US Public Interest Research Group (US PIRG) Higher Education Project released the second annual edition of Ripoff 101, a study surveying the most widely purchased textbooks at 59 colleges and universities across the country.

The expanded survey uncovered more evidence that textbook prices are a significant part of college costs, textbook prices are rising at a fast pace, and publishers use a variety of tactics to inflate the cost of textbooks.

The price of college textbooks represents a serious part of the affordability equation, the study concluded. It found the average student spends nearly $900US each year purchasing textbooks.

The most commonly purchased textbooks on college campuses have new editions published every three years, on average. New editions of the textbooks surveyed cost, on average, 45 per cent more than used copies of the previous edition.

Of the textbooks surveyed, new textbook prices jumped twelve per cent between the previous and current editions.

Georgetown University economics chair Jim Albrecht agreed that publishers have total control over what they offer universities in terms of updated texts.

"Some of my colleagues complain about the rate of increase in textbook prices, and I think some consider price when they decide on required texts," he said.

"I think most faculty go for the best text irrespective of price and that publishers are therefore in a good monopoly position vis-à-vis their customers."

> **"This report shows that publishers use needless new editions and gimmicks to drive up the cost of textbooks."**
>
> **LUKE SWARTHOUT, WASHINGTON PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH GROUP**

Publishers also sell their textbooks "bundled," or shrink-wrapped with additional instructional material such as CD-ROMs and workbooks, which tends to increase the price of the textbook by an average of ten per cent, according to the study.

Sixty-five per cent of the faculty surveyed in the report said that they used the bundled items "rarely" or "never."

The survey also found that American students pay more for their textbooks than overseas students for the same textbook.

For example, according to Thompson Learning's website, all books found in the survey cost an average of 72 per cent more in the US than in the UK, Africa and the Middle East.

Several state-based public interest research groups have called on the publishing industry to adopt policies that would ensure that publishers keep production and pricing costs as low as possible while maintaining educational value.

In January 2004, after the first Ripoff 101 study was released by the US PIRG, many students, faculty and lawmakers asked the publishing industry to adopt these recommendations formally into their business practices. State PIRGs have asked the Association of American Publishers to issue recommendations to its member companies. To date, the association has refused to issue such recommendations, according to the PIRGs.

"This report shows that publishers use needless new editions and gimmicks to drive up the cost of textbooks," Luke Swarthout, state PIRG higher education associate, said.

Some Georgetown students agreed that publishers are using exorbitantly high textbook prices to take advantage of students.

"It's a rip-off," Caitlin O'Connell said. "Most of these books are republished each year, and although it requires a lot of extra work on my part, it makes more sense to search online and find a previous edition for a lower price."

Several Georgetown faculty members have also voiced their concerns about increasing textbook prices.

Jonathan Heathcote, assistant professor of economics, said he was concerned that publishers change little to nothing in new editions of textbooks.

"The minor changes between editions do not justify the high cost of new textbooks," he said.

vote
su elections march 9th & 10th
WWW.SU.UALBERTA.CA/VOTE



BOOOOOOOM!
Blimp Explodes; Sounds Really Loud

What a great headline! And that thing below the headline? Also great! So great in fact, I'll bet you wish you wrote it. Well, you can. Come up to 3-04 SUB and volunteer for the **Gateway**. It's easy and fun, and we can help hone your writing skills too.

Looks like someone could have honed their blimp-driving skills, but it's not too late for you.

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OPINION

Sex doesn't always sell, SU

YOU'VE READ IT IN these newspaper pages before: advertising on this campus is pervasive. It's everywhere—in bathroom stalls, in hallways, on buses, and even on people. It's something some people hate and try to change, while others actively ignore and shut out the invasion of the free market into their lives.

But it isn't the sheer volume of advertising that I find so striking. It's the particularly insipid ads being churned out by the Students' Union these days that have captured my attention. Yet these ads don't give me the sudden impulse to spend money at campus bars, quit smoking, or even vote in the upcoming Students' Union elections.

All three of these ad campaigns currently being undertaken by the SU are disturbingly similar: they all use sexually suggestive imagery to try and capture the attention of students.

Now I'm no prude; I like a peanut-butter handjob from a lady-boy as much as the next guy. And I can certainly recognize the irony of decrying sexually explicit advertising in what is arguably the *Gateway*'s raunchiest issue of the year, but at the U of A—this alleged paragon of intellectualism and progressive thought—you'd think that marketers could come up with more clever advertising campaigns than those centred on sex.

I'm certain there are better ways to peddle the Powerplant's breakfast menu than resorting to having some girl suggestively feed a guy some sausage whilst he jams toast down her craw. And I'm not entirely sure what quitting smoking has to do with sex; of course, I understand the parallel that the SU has tried to create—"time to ditch an old flame"—but that doesn't make these ads clever or anything. It makes them downright boring and uninspired.

Sex-based advertising is nothing new on this campus. Last year's SU general election featured posters with photos of dildos and BDSM gear alongside text encouraging students to vote, because, you know, dildos and BDSM gear are rad, or something. Also, we as students are all retarded enough to get incredibly excited at the sight of sexual objects—or in the cases of other advertising campaigns, people—to the point where we cannot help but participate in the election process, quit smoking, or consume breakfast at the Powerplant.

Not surprisingly, these ad campaigns aren't working. According to an article in the 30 October, 2004 edition of *The Economist*, "Using sex to sell has been overdone and has reached a saturation point." Adult consumers have been so inundated with sexual imagery that it doesn't even phase us anymore. According to research conducted by the Chartered Institute of Marketing (CIM), only six per cent of consumers surveyed said they were positively influenced by sex in advertising. This trend is apparently affecting young consumers as well; again, according to *The Economist*, "D_Code, a study of young consumers by HeadlightVision ... concluded that [youth] found sexually explicit advertising boring and repellent."

So if young consumers find sex in advertising so repellent, the SU is actually doing a disservice to itself and its constituents by making sex the focus of their advertising campaigns. We're university students, we're smarter than this, and our Students' Union should be too.

ADAM ROZENHART
Editor-in-Chief

Mr Tuition Freeze

WELL COLOUR ME never-in-a-million-years-would-I-have-guessed-this mauve, we have a tuition freeze. There are a lot of things you come to expect living in Alberta, but to have public funds actually put *back* into something isn't exactly as expected as anti-gay rants by Conservative MLAs or telling Ottawa to get their hands off of our oil.

That aside, all credit to Premier Ralph Klein. Whether this was a deathbed promise to Lois Hole or not, it's pretty damn good news for postsecondary education. I guess it just goes to show that if you don't just vote governments in blindly, they get scared and do things that we might actually want.

DAVID BERRY
Opinion Editor

LETTERS

Marijuana feature was irresponsible

I was appalled to read last Thursday's feature article ("So you want to grow your own pot," 3 February). The idea that the official newspaper of one of Canada's largest universities would come out not pro-marijuana, but pro-crime, shows a stunning lack of understanding of the responsibility the media has to society. I encourage the *Gateway*'s political activism, but it is completely inappropriate to advocate the breaking of laws when they spoil your fun and you're too lazy to lobby for a change.

You could have easily done a proper discussion of the benefits of marijuana, and its legal history. As the author pointed out, the Internet is full of resources for the would-be gardener, so why publish it? You blew the opportunity, though—I think anyone who wasn't drooling over their first harvest noticed. You wasted all your words straw-manning the Americans, the health minister, and anyone who's ever watched a drug commercial and thought, "What they're saying makes sense. I know a family who was destroyed by crack." I would have loved to see a little evidence that the government studies were bought off, or a decent explanation for how having a marijuana plant in my basement will destroy the nylon rope industry. You managed to skirt most of the major reasons for marijuana being illegal: its knack for harming both memory and a person's ability to make decisions.

I'm sure most students here are smart enough to, as you suggest, not "get caught," but a lot of younger people come to the University and read the *Gateway*. Besides, what are the chances the *Gateway* will give the school a black eye by publishing something that looks like it was taken out of *The Anarchist's Cookbook*?

Naturally, I'm reminded that the views expressed in the *Gateway* don't reflect those of the student body or the University, but using that as a get-out-of-jail-free card isn't going to fly with most of us. You have to remember your responsibility as a newspaper, and be accountable for the results of your content.

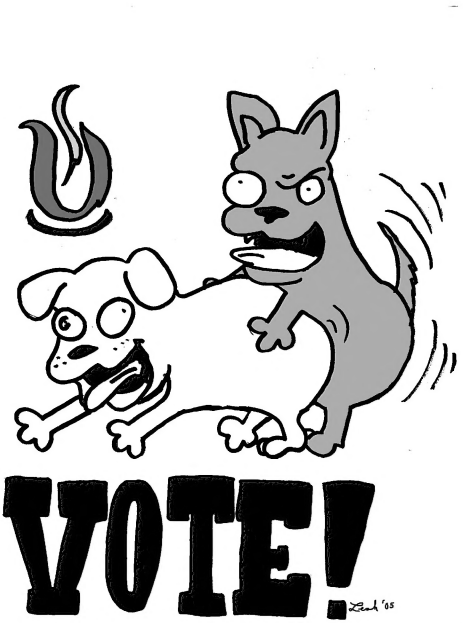
BENJAMIN WILKE
Chemical Engineering IV

Congratulations on pot feature, *Gateway*

I was delighted to read the article on growing pot ("So you want to grow your own pot," 3 February), especially the part that panned Anne McClellan's "stupid" comments.

I also thought you'd like to know that University of Calgary students have bested you, though, by initiating a resolution at the recent Liberal Convention in Calgary to legalize it, much to Annie's chagrin. That resolution is going to the National Liberal Convention in Ottawa in March.

Now, let's see some networking here. Contact your local Liberal delegates—especially at Annie's office, if you're in her constituency—to support the resolution and see a stop to this prohibitionist nonsense.



Let's legalize it, control it, and sell it in hermetically sealed packages at all duty-free stores at the border. Have farmers grow hemp to replace their income and produce renewable fuel. The possibilities are enormous. Way to go, *Gateway*.

BRIAN L. FISH
Edmonton, Alberta
Barrister & Solicitor (age 64)

Same-sex marriage is 'moral dynamite'

It appears that the judges and politicians of this country are bent upon using our children as guinea pigs in their experiment with moral uncertainty. They have absolutely no idea what kind of impact same-sex marriage will have on our country, and yet they are content to sit back and reassure us that we have nothing to fear.

Unfortunately, their words bear a frightening resemblance to those spoken by the scientists back in the 1930s, who reassured us that PCBs (mainly used in the electricity-supply industry and mining) would have no adverse effects on the population. However, due to their accumulation in the food chain, the production of PCBs was halted worldwide at the beginning of the 1980s and subsequently banned in 1996.

If gay "marriage" goes through, the spotlight will shift from defining marriage to defining a family. Soon after, we'll see equity adoption policies for gays, as well as same-sex education materials in the classroom. And how long will the state continue to defend religious officials deemed to be "discriminatory" under the charter? Not long, people! Not long! I am sorry, but I am not willing to remain silent while a few monkeys in Ottawa play around with moral dynamite, only to watch it go off later.

LENNY D'AGOSTINI
BA Alumnus

Gariano only gives critics of feminism more ammunition

Gina Gariano's article, "Feminism must include everyone to work" (8 February), is a prime example of why that cause has been generalized as anywhere between overtly radical to psychotic. While Gariano's emphasis that, within feminism, all varieties of issues must be supported is fine in itself, she consequently jumps from that supportable notion into a full-on rant about the absolute necessity of every woman being a feminist. Did I miss something?

The reasons cited by Gariano for this claim are weak. By not taking up feminism, a woman is not inherently denying the work and pain of those who paved the way for equality in education, the workplace, and politics—they are merely stating that they are happy with the way things are now. Those privileges that Gariano cites—voting, family planning, et cetera—will not disappear without absolute support for feminism, but no one denies that feminism created those opportunities for women in the past. A woman's choice to not support feminism in its current form does not relate to an indifference concerning the rights feminism has acquired in the past.

Instead of focusing on the things that feminism can still work on to reach equality between the sexes, such as unfair wages for women, Gariano used her article to push for a unified voice amongst all women, which is not only impossible, but ill-conceived and contradictory with freedom of speech. For every woman who believes feminism still has important goals to achieve to reach full equality, there will be a woman who believes this has already been reached, or at least a close enough version for their tastes. Feminism's gradual removal from the mainstream, as its goals are achieved, is what has caused it to be stereotyped by those outside the movement. Ravings about "femi-Nazis" are not uncommon, and it's the unfounded claims in articles like Gariano's that provide ammunition against what is otherwise a worthy ideology.

AIDAN HAILES
Arts II

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca.

The Gateway *reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature.*

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the name, student identification number, program, and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication. Anonymous letters will not be considered.

Correction!

In the Tuesday, 8 February edition of "The Burlap Sack," it was incorrectly implied that Josh Kjenner was tanning for reasons related to vanity.

The *Gateway* would like to clarify that Josh was actually tanning to avoid sunburn on an approaching tropical trip and isn't, in fact, a pretty boy.

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20 October 2004 Marc Kelburger 21 January 2020 Lewis Lapham 2 March 2020 Avi Lewis 14 April 2020 Morgan Spurlock

In suburban Buenos Aires, 30 ex-employees of a bankrupt auto-parts factory walk into their old workplace, roll out sleeping mats, and refuse to leave.

This is the beginning of *The Take*.
Director/Producer Avi Lewis will share his thoughts in this third installment of the Revolutionary Speakers Series.

AVI LEWIS
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What the world needs now is sex tutors



PAUL OWEN

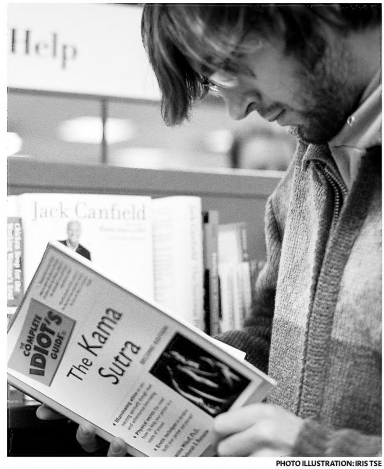


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: IRIS TSE

HOT FOR TEACHER Imagine never again having to hear, "Is it in yet?"

Virgins weren't made to have sex—at least not with each other. Sure, eventually everyone needs their cherry/man-cherry popped, but attempting the dangerous double deflowering can cause more harm than the use of the word "deflower" just did to my manly reputation. Face it: if your first time involved the back of your family's SUV with the seats folded down and the words, "Is it in yet?" being said more than twice, you're probably going to want to forget about it—and that's not even considering the rug burns that Ford's cheap carpeting left on your back, knees, ankles and, in my case, forehead.

They teach you about STDs and contraception in high school, but they neglect to inform you where to find the scenic route to pleasure town, let alone the shortcuts. It's time to institute a new breed of tutors, ones who put the "sex" back in "sexual education."

I'm all in favour of direction in sex—girls should be like the guys who work in airports with those lighted pylons—but there are certain things that two people intimately involved feel uncomfortable telling one another. With an attractive stranger, on the other hand, it's not going to hurt to be told to "use less pressure" or "more teeth." Yes, it might be awkward, but you're only there to get better at sex, so it really shouldn't matter.

This applies to more than just the basics of the beast with two backs. Foreplay, kissing, and all aspects of sexual and intimate interaction could probably use a little improvement. You practice playing an instrument or a sport, and you should practice stimulating your partner too. Unless you're ugly: then you should just concentrate on finding a partner.

Gentlemen, imagine not having to explain where the penis is most sensitive, or that a blowjob shouldn't feel like sucking a berry through a straw. Maybe girls would realize that guys have nipples, too, and that they're equally as sensitive, or that sometimes you need to "mind the stepchildren." A change in position isn't a bad thing, and is generally a good way to prolong your sexual experience, and it's pretty hot when your girl seems like she's enjoying herself.

Ladies, imagine your guy going down on you and not lapping like a thirsty dog at a toilet bowl. Don't worry about having to answer, "Is it in yet?" or getting poked four or five times before it is. Guys would know how to use their hands, mouths, tongues or toes to stoke the fires of passion. Imagine, if you will, a legion of men who know where the G-spot and clit are, and realize that getting you off is more important than bending you over the pool table and going at you.

Sex practice would have some more practical uses as well, such as knowing which side of the condom to stick it in, and learning to not wipe yourself off on the drapes. We'd be building a generation of better, more understanding lovers, and maybe that would lead to better, more understanding relationships. Sure, first times wouldn't be the special, magical moment with that person you love, but it would probably feel a lot better.

Look, I can masturbate a lot better than any girl can for me—a skill picked up by blowing off my friends on Friday nights to watch Showcase—and if I wanted a half-hearted handjob, I'd use my left hand. Conversely, the number of times I've had to say, "We don't do that anymore because I'm bad at it" just keep rising, and frankly a lot of these problems could be solved if we all had a little more practice. I guess what I'm saying is: ladies, I could really use a lesson.

If I die, I don't want you to have my sandwich



DERREK GREBINSKI

Have a seat, gentle reader, for what I am about to reveal will shock you worse than the time you swallowed that electric toothbrush. *Much* worse. Friends, there is new evidence suggesting that we, the currently alive, cannot in fact communicate with the dead. Now, if you're like me, and the laws of physics suggest that you're not, you don't buy this crap for a second.

Communication from beyond the grave happens every time someone dies. How do I know? Am I really so clever to make such a bold statement in the security of being completely, utterly correct? Partially yes, but it is my well-developed skills in the area of "looking" that give me the right to make this claim. How else, I ask you, could any number of hangers-on, often barely acquainted with a recently deceased member of the human species, make claims of what he or she "would have wanted"?

I hear it all the time. "I *know* James just died in a hail of gunfire, but we simply *must* continue with the blindfolded skeet-shooting sport he loved so dearly. It is, after all, what he would have wanted." How can one be so sure? Is there not a possibility that James, having become dead at the hands of this pursuit, would want everyone to stop being so tragically stupid and never, ever pick up a loaded weapon again? It could go either way.

But no, because absolutely everyone becomes a hero posthumously, as history is gleefully rewritten before the carcass is even cold. A person could be a hilariously self-centred jackass, utterly devoid of human kindness, during the 70 years of his or her life, only to be solemnly extolled as second only to Christ himself as the coffin closes. What does it matter that this person, when living, wouldn't walk across the street to piss on my shoes if they were on fire? They're dead *now*, and that alone deserves my respect. In addition, it's an absolute certainty that they would have wanted life to continue and for everyone to be happy.

So, to avoid any such misunderstandings after my death, I hereby state the following—I would not have wanted anything to continue. If, while attending the 2025 World Series, I should be killed in a horrible exploding urinal accident, I wish for the entire event to be instantly halted and for everyone to file quietly out of the stadium. That's it—just shut 'er down and go home. Sure, it may sound selfish initially, but when you consider that baseball sucks, I am actually doing you a favour from beyond this mortal coil.

If you ask me, this whole thing arose from the inability of the dead to fight back. For example, what if someone claims some day that, "Derrek would have wanted me to have his favourite sandwich"? I'm a corpse, so I really can't set the record straight, can I? Next thing you know, sandwiches are being shuttled across the known universe in my name, while absolutely no one is suffering the effects of all the merciless wedgies I *really* would have wanted. How is that justice?

This glorification of the dead is just prime territory for abuse, and the worst part is that there's nothing that can be done to stop this villainy. All this time and energy I've spent becoming a pillar of malevolence could be washed away in a second just because nobody can prove what I would and wouldn't have wanted after my death. If I'm on my deathbed, the last thing I need to be worrying about is the fate of my sandwich. On second thought, I'll actually probably be worrying about my sandwich anyway, so maybe I really don't care about any of this.

Bar environments perfect for violence



GRAHAM LETTNER

"While bars are not explicitly advertising for violence, they still share a magnetism for depravity. This is the reason for the half-dozen bouncers and the ID scans at the door. Curiously, movie theatres seem to think that gangly teenagers as ushers are all the security they need."

"It has nothing to do with this place; this is a great little bar. It's just punks carrying knives—that's what this is all about."

So said Leon Lovig, a patron of Orlando's Pub and Grill, the scene of Edmonton's latest fatal stabbing this past Super Bowl Sunday. He's only half right.

This most recent homicide is Edmonton's fifth of the new year and third at the hands of cold, hard steel. That makes the majority of murders so far this year knife-inflicted, and each of these tragic events took place in the cozy confines of a bar or a pub.

This begs the question: has the nightlife of Edmonton become unsafe? In the back of their minds, bar patrons in February will no doubt have the idea that a blade might come to bear on a barroom argument, and thus shy away from getting tangled up in a heated exchange over a spilt drink or a bumped pool shot.

And yet many would point to what Leon first stated: these stabbings are the acts of punk kids, intent on violence, unconcerned with law or consequence. The point is well-taken. Somewhere in the minds of the perpetrators, there was a severe disconnect with the moral boundaries that so many of us subscribe to. One does not stab without resolve, or, for that matter, break a bottle over another's head, or kick another when he or she is collapsed on the floor. Each of the above acts is in some sense premeditated; not acts of self defense, but rather deliberate attempts at inflicting harm.

But step outside the late-night bar setting and notice the sudden drop in violent behaviour. While bars are not explicitly advertising for violence, they still share a magnetism for depravity. This is the reason for the half-dozen bouncers and the ID scans at the door. Curiously, movie theatres seem to think that gangly teenagers as ushers are all the security they need. A bowling alley needs exactly one lone staffer dispensing musty shoes from behind a counter. Other social settings seem immune to the turbulence that plagues the bar scene. In fact, the setting that bars most closely resemble is a kindergarten where authority figures hover in the background ready to split up any two children who fly off the handle over an unwillingness to share the sandbox.

After absorbing the news of three deadly knife attacks via second-hand stories, or the 6pm news, students have voiced the sentiment that it is a shame to see Edmonton's bars come to this. Pat-downs, metal detectors and constant police visits are not far off, they say, and much to their chagrin, for Edmonton has long been calm and quiet, set apart from the violence of bigger cities.

However, such a nostalgic spin on events is as foolish as it is untrue. Bar violence is nothing new. Perhaps the current outcry is aimed at the proliferation of knife attacks, and this may have merit. But bars have long fallen prey to their own epidemic of savagery.

To casually mutter disparaging remarks at "the current state of things" is to shirk blame for being, up until now, a willing participant. The culture of nightlife has long been saturated with alcohol, drugs, masochism and vice. Most disgusting has been the meek acceptance of it all.

If Leon Lovig wants to pretend that his bar is an innocent bystander in a rash attack by unbalanced punks, then there is nothing left to do but to wait for another such attack to occur.

My mom now knows what a 'chubby' is

Thanks to crude cops, Sunday dinner conversation will be nice and awkward



ROSS MOROZ

There are plenty of reasons to be alarmed by the recent conduct of some members of the Edmonton Police Service. And, sure, the fact that the people my tax dollars pay to protect me seem to hold the citizens of this city in contempt is a little troubling, but what I really hate about, ahem, Edmonton's finest at this moment in history is all about my mother, and erections.

It's probably not necessary to recap the whole sordid "Overtime incident"—if you're interested, pick up the *Journal* (which has better stories) or the *Sun* (which has better headlines and semi-attractive women in the sports section). Above and beyond the incident itself, though, Edmontonians have also been horrified by the crude, juvenile, homophobic and generally unprofessional language used by the police officers involved in the controversy over their radios.

Which brings us to the erection issue: at one point, as the officers are convinced that they are about to nab one of their targets, one policeman indicates his excitement by informing his comrades that he is "getting a fucking chubby." The *Edmonton Journal*, which published transcripts of these tapes over the weekend, helpfully defined the term "chubby," which, as anyone born after about 1980 and educated outside of orthodox Islamist tradition knows, is slang for an erection. If you were born in, say, 1970, we mean a "boner"; if you were born in 1960, "woody" will probably make sense to you.

So what's the big deal? Simply this: as an avid reader of the *Edmonton Journal*, my mother now knows what a chubby is. I mean, okay, she obviously knew what a chubby was before now. But she didn't know that people called it a chubby. Had I asked her to define the term "chubby" last week, I probably would have gotten, "One of those really big beers," and then she would have almost certainly tried to order one with dinner the next night. But now, thanks to the dirty old men and women at the *Journal*, innocence is lost; next time my momma hears the word "chubby," she will invariably visualize a giant, glistening, throbbing, purple erection.

Worst of all, I'll probably get asked about this next time my mother calls. This will rate right up there on the uncomfortability scale along with the "teabagging" discussion my father and I had in 1999, and far worse than the time my grandmother wanted to know if I liked "farsh marshing" (she meant moshing) back in 1995. The rather bizarre thing is, if this does come up in conversation, I'll probably have to tell my mother that, as a 22-year-old, I kind of missed the "chubby" boat: I can remember people a few years younger than me using it, but it seems to me to be something that grade-eight boys probably say to each other on vaguely homoerotic sleepovers (come on, we've all had them). If anything, the disgusting radio transcripts of the police that night—which also include the terms "pisser," "hurling," and that old classic, "faggot"—sound less like the conversations of grizzled cops on a stakeout and more like the locker room after a Bantam hockey tournament.

And call me an intellectual snob, but to be entirely honest, I can stomach the idea of living in a totalitarian police state—providing, of course, that those police act a little less like 15-year-old boys. Because if I have to live in a world where my mom is forced to learn what "jizz," "choda," or "tossed salad" is, well, then, in the eloquent words of NWA: "Fuck da police."

Dave Alexander's TOP TEN

Reasons God is mad at you

10 That whole Heathenpalooza thing you helped organize.
9 Having impure thoughts just as he decided to get his smite on.
8 Dropped him from your Godster list.
7 Watched you on TV making it to the finals of *Canadian False Idol*.
6 All the wine, women and song ... and possibly that crossing guard you buried in the ravine.
5 Totally saw you slip Subway coupons in the collection plate.
4 Forgot to give him shout-out during acceptance speech for Rap Album of the Year.
3 Borrowed his lawnmower and foolishly assumed the tank would refill itself.
2 Accidentally chose a vengeful god instead of one that would give you superpowers and a hot car.
1 Got caught praying with a boner.

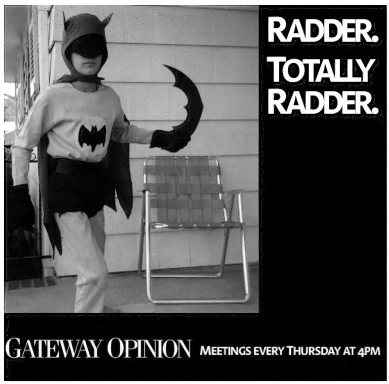
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Ivan Franko, National University of Lviv, and
Barry Tonge, Director, Education Abroad, University of Alberta International
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Valentine's Day only helps marginalize people



PATRICK ROSS



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: IRIS TSE

I'M MR LONELY Valentine's Day can only make outsiders feel worse.

14 February is the coldest day of the year. Of course, while some may tend to disagree with this statement based on whatever the ol' thermometer may tell them, there is a philosophical coldness that permeates this day, which manifests itself in two little words that send shivers down my spine: Valentine's Day.

I personally remember that, when I was much younger, I used to actually enjoy Valentine's Day. This was the day when you would blow a dinkload of your parents' money on novelty merchandised Valentine's Day cards and candies, take them to school, and stuff them in your classmates' equally crappy milk-carton mailboxes. While the irony of GI Joe Valentine's Day cards may escape your typical seven-year-old, the beauty of a universal act of friendship and kindness is probably enough to move even the most jaded 20- or 30-something.

Ah, and therein lies the rub. Somewhere between elementary and junior-high school, the message of universal friendship gets lost, and those unfortunate people who are branded "outsiders" are left out in the cold.

The truth is, while most of the civilized world is out celebrating love and togetherness, preferably as couples, there are those who have nothing to celebrate. There are various reasons for this: it may be circumstance, or perhaps shitty social skills. It could be appearance; I, for example, proudly describe myself as a scruffy ruffian—or a scruffian, if you will—which, when combined with my general geekiness, doesn't do much for me in the ol' love and romance department. It could be any number of other little things, which only serve to remind some people how cold and shallow the world can be.

Because truthfully, we spend little or no time remembering these people: there's no "Loneliness Day," or "Undesirable Loser Awareness Week." In a society raised on romantic comedies and geared more and more toward commercialism and consumption, maybe it's fitting that an entire day has sprung up to further marginalize these people and hide them from view. In fact, there's a tendency to resent depressed people, if not to completely ignore their presence. Of course, those of us happy people who have real nice lives don't often like to acknowledge there is a dark, ugly, cold side of the world that we don't often see.

And so, we have this little holiday for the happy people to celebrate their happiness, unknowing, or perhaps uncaring, that this is being rubbed directly in the faces of the unhappy people. This may or may not be why I intend to take a unique opportunity this year to hide from the monstrosity that is Valentine's Day, cowering in my apartment with videogames and a literal mountain of Spider-Man comics.

Because, fortunately, I can turn the thermostat in my apartment up as high as it will go, and least pretend that it isn't still so damn cold.

New year's resolutions don't work, but there is RATT



HOLLY HIGGINS

Some 30-odd days ago, you woke up with your head pounding rhythmically, reminiscent of the drumming music of the keg party you were at the night before. The insides of your mouth felt like a ball of gritty sandpaper trembling with the immediate need for water. The soreness of all your muscles and joints reminded you that jumping off the deck into the hot tub may have looked cool at the time, but right now seems mostly like a ridiculous decision.

You rubbed your tired eyes, cursed the powers that be, and promised yourself that you would never, ever again put yourself through the wretchedness of drinking too much alcohol. Even if those 30-some-odd days ago you had woke up to a brilliant morning full of sunshine seeping through your window shades, chances are you approached that morning differently—after all, that was no ordinary morning. That was the beginning of a new year.

There is something glorious about the promise of a new beginning. Three-hundred-and-sixty-five full days stretched before you like the yellow brick road, glistening with the potential of who and what you may encounter in the upcoming journey: a new year, a new start. "This year," you say with conviction and purpose, "I'm going to sober up/calm down/quit smoking/swear less/get in shape/eat better/be nicer to my siblings/study harder/whatever."

But somehow we turn over and find ourselves in the beginning of February. The pledge for more sleep has turned into napping two times on Saturday to regain the hours you lost from the previous days. The promise of drinking less means drinking two drinks less than the usual ten, although admittedly you ran out of money before you could buy more anyways. The resolution of being less stressed has been met with opposition from your friends, family members, professors, bosses, and that cute blonde-haired boy you're trying to date, who all seem to demand time from your personal schedule. As the usual glut of exams, papers, and meetings approaches, you seem to hardly be able to recall anything you promised, resolved, or committed to on 1 January—a time that, really, seems oh so long ago.

New Year's resolutions plague our lives for a few weeks, and then, like magical spells broken, sweep away. The gym is suddenly quiet again with the usual regulars working out. Your daytimer is packed full of those extra commitments you promised yourself to get rid of. Your dog throws up on your bed. Life goes on.

Resolutions are a fun way to tease yourself into imagining what your life might be like if you operated differently. For those people who managed to set a new goal and keep it this long, you deserve a medal of accomplishment. Supposedly it takes three days to create a new bad habit, and three months to break it. The clock is ticking on for those people determined to change, and real life will continue to get in the way. As for the other 96 per cent of us, I'll see you up at RATT.

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Purity Test

Valentine's Day is a day for love. But it's also a day for filthy, filthy sex and, by extension, a day to celebrate all that is impure. In recognition of this celebration, the *Gateway* brings you our eleventh annual purity test.

Take it, tally up your score using the blood of the innocent or, you know, a pen, and compare it with your friends, your cat, and your grandparents. Just remember: it's totally a contest.

Contributors: Scott Lilwall, Scott C Bourgeois, James Storrie, Paul Owen, Jenna Rodgers, Tim Peppin, Alex Witt, Tyson Durst, Daniel Kaszor, David Berry, Adam Rozenhart, Kristine Owram, Jake Troughton, Iris Tse, Lauren Jennings, Leanne Brown, Maylene Loveland and Matt Frehner

With photos and photo assistance by: Nick Wiebe, Iris Tse, Michael Liu, Matt Frehner, Lauren Jennings, Scott C Bourgeois, James Storrie, Leanne Brown, Maylene Loveland and Bianca Anores

EASING IN

Ever lied to someone? (1pt)
Your parents? (2pts)
A teacher? (5pts)
CSIS? (50pts)

Ever made a prank call? (1pt)
Ever told a dirty/racist joke? (2pts)
Because you're actually racist? (-2pts)

Ever broken up with someone? (1pt apiece)
Over the phone? (2pts)
Through a friend? (2pts)
Using a note? (2pts)
Through your parents? (10pts)
Ever broken up with your parents? (50pts)

Ever been in a fight? (2pts)
With a girl? (5pts)
With a baby? (10pts)
With a gorilla? (20pts)
With a bear? (20pts)
With a gorilla *and* a bear? (100pts)

SEX

Ever held hands? (1pt)
Kissed someone of the opposite sex? (1pt)
Kissed someone of the same sex? (2pts)
Kissed a hermaphrodite? (10pts)

Ever engaged in dry humping? (2pts)
Heavy petting? (3pts)
Fellatio? (5pts)
Cunnilingus? (5pts)
Given/received a rim job? (8pts)

Ever cum on someone's face? (3pts guys, 10pts girls)
Ever had your face cummed on? (3pts girls, 10pts guys)

Ever had pre-marital sex? (2pts per partner)
Was it only because Stephen Harper wouldn't let you get married? (3pts)
Ever had anal sex? (5pts)
How many years away from 18 were you when you lost your virginity? (2pts per year before, -2pts per year after, -5pts if you're still a virgin)
Ever stolen someone's virginity? (2pts apiece)

How many times have you had sex in a 24-hour period? (1pt per session, add 5pts for every partner after 1)
How many people have you had sex with at once? (3pts for every person after 1)
Ever had sex until you were sore? (3pts)
Until you had to go to the hospital? (20pts)

Ever had sex with someone more than twice or less than half your weight/height? (5pts)
Ever broken the half-plus-seven rule? (5pts)
Ever used a formula to decide who you can sleep with? (-5pts)
Ever slept with a prof? (3pts)
Just to raise your marks? (5pts)
But you failed anyway? (-10pts)

Ever cheated on your partner? (2pts per time)
Ever cheated on your partner with someone who was cheating on their partner? (10pts)

Ever gotten married just to have sex? (-2pts)
Just to commit adultery? (10pts)

Are you a born-again virgin? (-5pts)
Ever pretended you're a born-again virgin just to get laid? (10pts)

Ever named your genitals? (1pt)
After your favourite prof? (5pts)

Ever played spin the bottle? (1pt)
Strip spin the bottle? (5pts)
Did you "use" the bottle? (10pts)
Ever faked an orgasm? (2pts)
Ever faked not having an orgasm? (5pts)
Did you tell your partner you were "just peeing"? (10pts)

Ever screamed the wrong name during sex? (2pts)
Was it "Mat Brechtel"? (5pts)
Was it your own name? (10pts)

Ever had sex with a Golden Bear? (2pts)
A Panda? (2pts)
A grizzly bear? (20pts)

Ever woken up next to someone whose name you couldn't remember? (2pts per time)



Ever hate fucked the hate away? (5pts)

Ever fisted someone/been fisted? (3pts)
Did you use a dish glove? (-3pts)
Hip waders? (1Opts)

Ever engaged in an S&M act? (3pts)
Ever involved pissing, shitting, or puking in your sexual escapades? (5pts apiece, 5Opts for doing them all simultaneously)
By accident? (2Opts)

Do you have a shag carpet? (1pt)
In your van? (2pts)
In your pants? (5pts)

STAYIN' SAFE

Ever had unprotected sex (not even pills)? (5pts)
With someone you didn't know? (1Opts)
Ever gotten pregnant? (1Opts)
To quit smoking? (5Opts)

Ever been on the pill? (2pts)
To make your breasts bigger? (1Opts girls, 5Opts guys)
To make your acne better? (-5pts)

Ever had an abortion? (1Opts)
As a method of birth control? (2Opts)
To lose weight? (1OOpts)

Ever had crabs, herpes, scabies, a urinary-tract infection, or a nasty discharge? (5pts apiece)
Ever had gonorrhea, Chlamydia, genital warts, or syphilis? (1Opts apiece)
AIDS? (2Opts)

DEVICES

Ever looked at porn online? (1pt)
Ever had cybersex? (2pts)
While pretending to be older/younger/of a different sex than you actually are? (5pts)

Ever used online personals? (2pts)
Ever been in porn? (1Opts)

Ever bought porn? (2pts)
Ever gotten free porn because you spent so much money at the sex shop? (5pts)

Are you down with slash fiction? (2pts)
Transformers slash fiction? (5pts)
West Wing slash fiction? (1Opts)
Jesus slash fiction? (5Opts)

Do you own a vibrator? (5pts)
Are you a guy? (1Opts)

Do you own a cock ring? (5pts)
Are you a girl? (1Opts)

Do you own handcuffs, a whip, paddle, bondage swing, gag, clamps, stiletto boots, crotchless underwear, corset, collar, or crop? (3pts each, 1Opts more if you have them all)

Ever made your own sex toys? (5pts)
Out of vegetables? (1Opts)
Out of animals? (2Opts)

Ever used lube? (2pts)
Margarine? (5pts)
WD-4O? (1Opts)

TOUCHING IT

Ever masturbated? (1pt)
Just to fall asleep? (2pts)
Until you bled? (3pts)
Until you went blind? (5pts)
Until you could see again? Hallelujah! (2Opts)

How many times in one day? (2pts per every time after 1)

Ever touched it at school? (5pts)
At work? (5pts)
Do you work at a daycare? (2Opts)

Ever given yourself oral sex? (5pts)
Is that the reason you went into gymnastics? (1Opts)
Is that the reason you won Olympic gold? (5Opts)

Ever shaved your pubes? (1pt)
Waxed them? (2pts)
Painfully torn them out by the handful? (5pts)
Because you had gum stuck in them? (1Opts)

LOCATIONS

Ever had sex outside? (2pts)
In the winter? (5pts)

Ever have sex while you were on the phone? (2pts)
With your parents? (3pts)
With your grandparents? (5pts)
With your real boyfriend/girlfriend? (1Opts)

In a car? (2pts)
While you were driving? (1Opts)

In an elevator? (2pts)
A public bathroom? (2pts)

The alley behind the Strat? (1Opts)

Rutherford Library North? (2pts)
Rutherford Library South? (2pts)
Both at the same time? (1Opts)

Quad? (3pts)
The Ag/For atrium? (3pts)

On public transportation? (3pts)
A plane? (3pts)
In the LRT station? (3pts)
Was it on the tracks? (5pts)
Did you come at the same time as the train? (1Opts)

In a classroom? (2pts)
While there was a class going on? (1Opts)

The hospital? (2pts)
The children's hospital? (5pts)
Were you a patient? (2Opts)

In the Gateway office? (2pts)
And neither of you worked for the Gateway? (1Opts, you sneaky bastard)

The Admin building? (2pts)
While paying your tuition? (5pts)
To pay your tuition? (1Opts)

University Hall? (2pts)
On Rod Fraser's desk? (5pts)
With Rod Fraser? (5Opts)
Did you donate money to engineering afterwards? (1OOpts)

Ever been penetrated in Cameron Library? (2pts)
With a knife? (1Opts)

DRUGS/ALCOHOL

Ever gotten drunk? (1pt)
Ever gotten crunk? (2pts)
How many years away from 18 were you when you first got drunk? (1pt for every year below, -1pt for every year above)
High? (2pts for every year below, -2pts for every year above)

Ever drank beer in the shower? (1pt)
Ever still been drunk in the morning? (3pts)
Ever gotten so drunk you puked? (3pts)
Pissed yourself? (5pts)
Shit yourself? (1Opts)
Died? (1OOpts)

Ever drink and dial? (5pts)
Drink and drive? (1Opts, asshole)
Drink and fax? (2Opts)

Ever had a hangover? (2pts)
A hangover that lasted more than 24 hours? (4pts)
Did you drink to get rid of it? (5pts)
Did you drink to make it last longer? (1Opts)

Ever been in a bar fight? (2pts)
Ever started a bar fight? (3pts)

Ever tried:
Cigarettes? (1pt)
Pot or hash? (2pts)
Mushrooms? (3pts)
Glue or painting supplies? (4pts)
Coke, meth, speed, ecstasy, or acid? (5pts)
Crack? (1Opts)
Heroin? (15pts)
Oregano? (-2pts)

Do you own a pipe? (2pts)
A bong? (3pts)
Ever hotboxed a room? (3pts)
A car? (4pts)
A house? (1Opts)

Ever snorted coke off a hooker? (5pts)
Off a dead hooker? (2Opts)
Off an undead hooker? (1OOpts)

Ever gotten someone else involved in drugs? (5pts)
Against their will? (1Opts)
Ever grown your own weed? (5pts)
Using instructions you read in the *Gateway*? (1Opts)

Ever sold drugs? (1Opts)
Ever ran your own drug cartel? (1OOpts)

Ever gone to class drunk? (2pts)
High? (3pts)
Ever mixed drugs and alcohol? (3pts)
Ever overdosed? (2Opts)

Ever sucked dick for coke? (1Opts)
Are you Bob Saget? (15pts)
Was it Bob Saget? (5Opts)

Ever taken medicinal marijuana? (2pts)
Did you lie to get it? (5pts)
Was it your grandparents'? (1Opts)
Did you sell it? (15pts)
Back to them? (5Opts)

Ever rolled a joint? (2pts)
With Pierre Burton (RIP)? (1Opts)
With Anne McLellan? (2Opts)

Ever bought drugs or alcohol for underage kids? (1pt)
From underage kids? (5pts)
In exchange for sex? (1Opts)

Ever gotten so drunk you put your fist through a wall? (1pt)
Your head? (3pts)
Your dink or, somehow, your vagina? (1Opts)

BLASPHEMY

Pride? (1pt)
Envy? (1pt)
Gluttony? (1pt)
Lust? (1pt)
Wrath? (1pt)
Greed? (1pt)
Slothfulness? (1pt)
(2pts for each if they happened in a church)

Is the Pope in the hospital because of you? (5pts)

Ever started your own religion? (2pts)

Ever considered going into the priesthood? (-2pts)
For the children? (5Opts)

Ever used the Bible to make rolling papers? (2pts)
Toilet paper? (5pts)
Feminine hygiene paper? (1Opts)

Did you pee in the water at your baptism? (2pts)
At someone else's baptism? (5pts)

Ever been taken advantage of by a priest? (1Opts)
Ever taken advantage of a priest? (2Opts)

CRIME

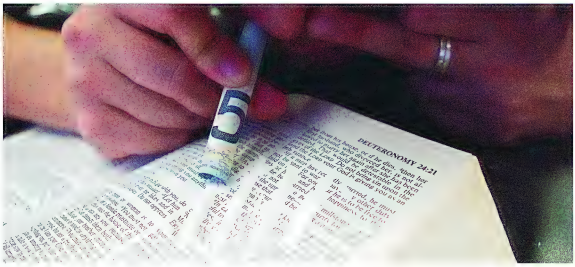
Ever committed an illegal act? (2pts)
Did you blame it on someone else? (5pts)
Did they go to jail? (2Opts)

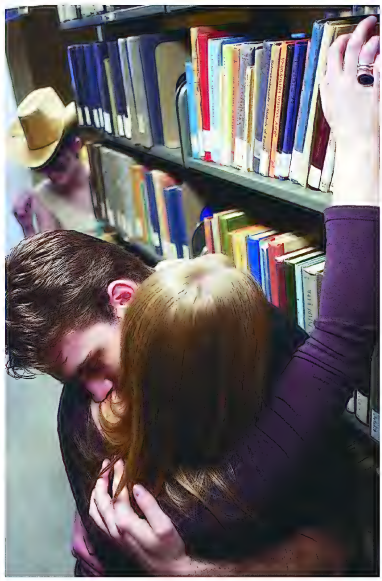
Ever gotten a parking ticket? (1pt)
A speeding ticket? (2pts)
A ticket for drinking and driving? (5pts)
Ever been in the drunk tank? (1Opts)

Ever taken the LRT without paying? (2pts)
Ever dined and dashed? (5pts)
Ever cheated on an exam? (5pts)
Ever violated copyright laws? (2pts)

Ever streaked? (2pts)
Ever skinny dipped? (2pts)
Did someone run away with your







clothes? (-2pts)
Because you asked them to? (5pts)

Ever been arrested? (5pts)
Gone to prison? (10pts)

Ever been in Campus Crime Beat? (5pts)
Do you live in Lister? (-5pts)

Ever stolen anything? (1pt)
A chocolate bar? (1pt)
A car? (5pts)
Someone's soul? (10pts)
Someone's rhythm? (20pts)

Ever flipped off a cop? (2pts)
A bus driver? (2pts)
A handicap-bus driver? (5pts)

Ever faked being crippled to park in a handicap spot? (5pts)
Ever broken your friend's kneecap to park in a handicap spot? (10pts)
Ever broken your own kneecap to park in a handicap spot? (50pts)

Ever vandalized? (1pt)
A Zoom media ad? (-5pts, hippie)

Ever broken a window? (1pt)
With your penis or, somehow, vagina? (5pts)
With someone else's penis or, somehow, vagina? (10pts)

Ever caused a tsunami? (50pts)
With your penis or, somehow, vagina? (100pts)

Ever toilet-papered a house? (2pts)
With used toilet paper? (5pts)

Ever stolen a bike? (3pts)
A motorbike? (5pts)
From a Hell's Angel? (10pts)
And you lived to tell the tale? (20pts)

Ever had a restraining order issued against you? (5pts)
How many countries have you been stopped by the police in? (2pts per country)

Ever killed a hooker? (10pts)
Ever brought a hooker back to life? (20pts)

ROCK N' ROLL

Ever been to a live rock concert? (1pt)
Ever crowd-surfed? (1pt)
Ever been backstage? (2pts)
Had sex backstage? (5pts)

On stage? (20pts)
Ever slept with someone in a band? (2pts)
Were mudfish involved? (20pts)
Ever slept with an entire band? (5pts)
Was it Nickelback? (-50pts)
Was it Creed? (-100pts)

Ever started a band to get girls/guys? (2pts)
To get free food at the Powerplant? (1pt)
Did neither work? (-5pts)

Ever experience frottage? (2pts)
Ever go to a concert just to experience frottage? (5pts)

Do you have any piercings? (2pts per hole, 5pts per nipple or genital piercing)

Do you have a tattoo? (3pts per hour of tattooing)
Were you drunk? (5pts)
Did you do it yourself? (5pts)
Did you get it done on "free tatoo day"? (10pts)
Any brandings? (10pts)
As a frat initiation? (5pts more)
Voluntary amputations? (20pts)

Ever died your hair an unnatural colour? (1pt)
Your pubic hair? (3pts)
Someone else's pubic hair? (10pts)

AND FINALLY:

Ever passed out on your parents' bed naked while touching yourself with their wedding picture in your other hand? (100pts)

Your purity on a relative scale

Wet behind the ears (0–130)

I'm not really sure how you managed to get your hands on a copy of this, but if you made it all the way through, you've most likely wet yourself by this point. Make sure Mommy and Daddy don't see you reading this, or they'll send you back to the cage in the basement they kept you in for the first 20 years of your life. If you're in this category, you most likely think the word "boobie" is referring to a trap of some point, and a handjob is like getting a manicure.

Gatewayers in this category: Leah Collins, Jake Troughton

A little wet in your pants (131–230)

You're a straight-A student, always in bed by 10pm, and volunteer at an old-folks' home on the weekends. However, you have been known to actually open your penis enlargement spam every once in a while, and once you even let yourself have a sexual fantasy (you stopped before you could finish, though). Next time your friends try to peer pressure you into something, try saying "yes." It'll loosen you up a bit, and next thing you know *you'll* be the one explaining what "teabagging" means.

Gatewayers in this category: Scott C Bourgeois, Tyson Kaban, Daniel Kaszor, Cosanna Preston, Dave Berry, Adam Rozenhart, Leanne Fong

A little wet in someone else's pants (231–330)

You've achieved a healthy balance in life. You know how to cut loose, but you usually manage to stop short of alcohol poisoning, pregnancy, or throat fungus. While the rest of the world was at home looking at Internet porn, you were out buying a webcam with your "roommate"—but you always remembered to use a condom, or at least some Saran Wrap. Keep it up and you'll live a lengthy, healthy, fulfilling, reasonably perverted life.

Gatewayers in this category: Iris Tse, James Storrie, Don Iveson, Chris Boutet, Kristine Owram

Wet behind the ears—with jizz! (331–hell)

Wow. You, good sirs and lady-sirs, have done it all, and I mean *all*. From snorting coke off a dead hooker's chest to starting tsunamis with your genitals to falling asleep naked on your parents' bed with their wedding picture in your hand, there's nothing left for you in this world. Maybe once you end up in hell you'll find some new ways to amuse yourself, although even Satan himself probably won't be able to come up with any pointers for you. Try not to let this depress you too much.

Gatewayers in this category: Ross Moroz



FILE PHOTO: JEFFREY GREENIAUS

THE A-TEAM Justin Wallin and the Bears host the UBC Thunderbirds this weekend.

Hockey Bears ready for deceivingly strong T-Birds

Low-ranked UBC squad has five wins since Christmas break

JAKE TROUGHTON
Sports Editor

After last Saturday's disappointing loss to Calgary that ended a six-year unbeaten streak against the Dinos, Golden Bears hockey fans might be forgiven for hoping that the team's next opponent, the UBC Thunderbirds, will provide an easy chance to bounce back.

The Thunderbirds, after all, have a record of only 5-14-5 and are unranked nationally, whereas the Bears have been the top-ranked team since the second week of the season and boast an impressive 20-3-1 record. Not only that, but the Bears handily swept two meetings with the Thunderbirds in October, as well as two pre-season meetings.

Records and past results can be deceiving, though, and in this case they almost certainly are. After recovering from a huge rash of injuries that at one point forced them to call upon players from intramural teams, the Thunderbirds have posted a 5-2-1 record since the Christmas break—the same record as the Bears—and are likely to pose a much greater threat when they face the Bears again tomorrow and Saturday at 7:30pm in Clare Drake Arena.

"UBC's arguably the hottest team in our conference since Christmas, and we haven't seen them in awhile," said Bears head coach Rob Daum. "Before Christmas they didn't win a game. They were close, but they had a bunch of injuries, key guys were out of their lineup and their depth was really challenged. But since Christmas they've added some people, they've got their other guys healthy, and they're a much better team."

A 5-2-1 record in their last eight games represents a massive improvement for the Thunderbirds, but for Bears fans who were spoiled by an unbeaten regular season last year, it might seem like a cause for concern. Daum insisted, though, that the recent losses are simply a reminder that even a team as tough as the Bears needs to be at its best in the tough Canada West conference, which includes the three top-ranked teams in the country.

"You have to play well against everybody," said Daum. "When you don't play well, you don't win, regardless of who you play. We've been saying that for four years, and it's been true for four years; it's just that finally there've been some losses to substantiate that thought process."

Some would suggest that regular-season losses could prove to be a positive for the Bears—who've entered the last four national championships as the top seed but failed to win gold each time—by serving as a "wake-up call" for them to eliminate bad habits picked up during a long win streak. Daum, however, wasn't buying that theory.

"I think that's a crock," he said. "The teams we play aren't bad teams; we haven't beaten them because we've been going 30 per cent and winning games. We've played that well. There were games last year that maybe we could've lost or should've lost, but that didn't affect how we approached things. If we win but don't play well, we still address the things that we don't do well. We evaluate our team based on our performance, not on the outcome. It hasn't happened very often, but if we play extremely well and lose, we can't tear everything down and start over again."

Volleyball Bears finish their regular season at home against Spartans

With first place already clinched, the Bears tune up for the playoffs against a likely Final Four opponent

ANDREW RENFREE
Sports Writer

When Canada West officials created the men's volleyball schedule many months ago, they probably didn't expect the final games of the regular season to pit the top two teams in the country against each other. But the upcoming collision of on-court powerhouses this weekend between the top-ranked Golden Bears and the second-ranked Trinity Western Spartans will likely end the Canada West men's volleyball regular season with a bang.

Unfortunately, it will be a bang that has very little impact in the end. The Spartans have posted a regular season record of 14–4 to date, which guarantees them a second-place finish in the Mountain Division and a ticket to the playoffs, while the Bears 17–1 record has also guaranteed their post-season appearance; the Bears were also able to clinch first place in the division and the conference last weekend with two victories over the Winnipeg Wesmen. Their near-perfect regular-season record has guaranteed the Bears a bye in the quarter-final round and a berth in the conference Final Four.

However, the victories in Winnipeg didn't come easily for Alberta, as the Wesmen put up quite a fight before surrendering the wins to the Bears. Last Friday, two of the sets required extra points, though the Bears won in straight sets, and Saturday's match went a full five sets before the Bears won. Alberta head coach Terry Danyluk said the matches against the Wesmen were "pretty tight" despite the relatively low-ranked opponent (the Wesmen are seventh on the current CIS top-ten list).

"The scores were very competitive. I thought [Winnipeg] played very well and I didn't think we played our best volleyball so it made it closer than it should have been," Danyluk said. "Not to take anything away from Winnipeg; they scouted us really well and they played against us well."

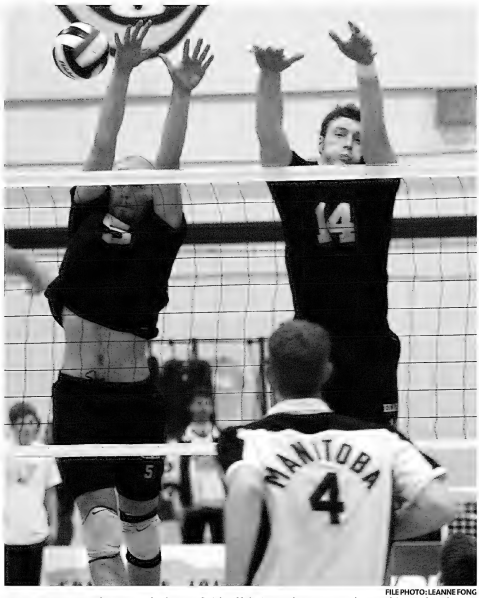
With the Wesmen in the rear-view mirror, the Bears are now focused on what will likely be one of the best matches of the season against Trinity Western. The volleyball juggernauts have already met in four matches this season, all in BC; the Bears swept two regular season matches in November, while the teams split two September pre-season matches. That loss was one of only two overall losses for the Bears this year, and Danyluk stressed the importance of this weekend's matches heading into a likely post-season rematch.

"All year we've been ranked one and two with Trinity and they're one of the teams that have beaten us this year, [albeit] in pre-season play," said Danyluk "The chances are great that we will play them either in the semifinal or final this year."

Danyluk did say, though, that he wishes the upcoming matches had some significance on the standings, but seeing as the playoff situation for both of the teams has been solidified, it will come down to an issue of pride. He also said that his players cannot become complacent heading into the playoffs.

"I don't know if they're becoming complacent; I would certainly hope not," Danyluk said. "With our game anything can happen on any given night, and hopefully they're not looking too far down the road and they're still playing each of the nights we play."

The Bears' final home matches of the season are slated to start at 6:30pm tomorrow and 8:15pm on Saturday in the Main Gym.



FILE PHOTO: LEANNE FONG

TOP OF THE HEAP The top-ranked Bears finish off their regular season at home this weekend.



FILE PHOTO: NICK WIEBE

CAPTAIN ALBERTA Pandas captain Danielle Bourgeois routinely skates circles around her CIS opponents.

Bourgeois still aiming for Team Canada

JAKE TROUGHTON
Sports Editor

It's been just over two years since Pandas left-winger Danielle Bourgeois last slipped on a Team Canada jersey, scoring the gold-medal-winning goal at the European Air Canada Cup as a member of the Canadian under-22 squad.

Now 23, Bourgeois is still struggling to make the jump to the senior national team. But while she's arguably the best player in CIS history—last year, her fourth as a Panda, she set the CIS single-season scoring record with 54 points (28 goals and 26 assists), as well as the career scoring record (she now has 205 points, 71 more than the previous leader)—the national program hasn't given her the consideration that many would expect, and she's not one of the 31 players in contention for 20 spots on Canada's next world championship team.

"They feel that her skating isn't where it needs to be, in terms of her top speed," said Pandas head coach Howie Draper. "It's a bigger ice surface [at the international level], and they feel she'd need to be faster to compete on that."

Though she's been left out of Team Canada training camps, scouts have had an eye an Bourgeois since she left the under-22 program, and she was diplomatic when asked about the scouting process.

"They've given me opportunities," she said. "I guess you can look at it like they have spots to fill, certain positions they want filled, and there's just not one that fits me. I guess that's the most objective thing you could say about it."

Draper said that Bourgeois is still on Team Canada's radar, and disagreed with the idea that her skating isn't strong enough to make the jump to international play.

"You look at some of the players who've been very successful in the NHL, like Wayne Gretzky, who wasn't an outstanding skater, but they have the ability to put points on the board, whether they be assists or goals," he said. "I certainly think that Danielle has that uncanny ability, and I personally believe that if she had the opportunity to get a look at that level that she could do very well, given time."

Bourgeois' Team Canada hopes may be benefitting from playing with fellow Panda Delaney Collins-Pye, who was on last year's world-champion team after a three-year absence and is one of ten blueliners in contention for this year's team (that decision will be made in early- to mid-March, according to Canadian head coach Melody Davidson). But as the program moves toward youth and training its players several years in advance, Bourgeois recognizes that she needs to get her foot in the door as soon as possible.

"It's been a really big goal of mine for a long time. I'm not giving up on it, but as I get older the door kind of shuts more," she said. "Delaney got another chance, so I guess it is possible."

Bourgeois, Collins-Pye and the Pandas will conclude their regular season at home this weekend against the UBC Thunderbirds. Opening faceoff for the games is 4pm tomorrow and Saturday.

Volleyball Pandas hope to end year on a high note

ANDREW RENFREE
Sports Writer

If the Pandas volleyball team thought the last games of this season would be smooth sailing, they were quite mistaken. The final stretch has proven to be a bumpy road for the team, as they've amassed three losses in their last four outings, meaning their up-and-down season seems to have taken a downswing as of late.

Coming off of two disappointing five-set losses to the first-ranked Calgary Dinos a week earlier, the fourth-ranked Pandas hoped to garner two victories on the road against Winnipeg last weekend, but managed only a split after dropping the opening match in four sets.

The Pandas coaching staff expected a heated battle between Winnipeg and Alberta, currently ranked third and fourth respectively in the country. As well, the Wesmen were riding a 15-match win streak that started in November, vaulting the team up the CIS rankings. Pandas assistant coach Mike Ling called the Wesmen a "silent beast" looking to take advantage of Alberta's mistakes on the court. He commented on the strong play of some Winnipeg players, namely middle Andrea Charbonneau, and power-hitter Jocelyne Roy, whom the Pandas expected would bring their A-game to the weekend's matches.

"Winnipeg is very good defensively," said Ling. "They were relentless. We made some uncharacteristic, unforced errors similar to the errors we made against Calgary the weekend before. The win on Saturday certainly helped us to find that winning feeling again, which adds something to the equation."

After splitting the matches in Winnipeg, the Pandas are looking to finish the regular season on a strong note at home against the Trinity Western Spartans this weekend. The Spartans are currently tied for tenth in the CIS rankings and sit in fifth place in Canada West, three matches behind the fourth-place Pandas; they can't overtake Alberta for the higher playoff spot (the Pandas themselves will finish fourth regardless of this weekend's results), but Ling expects the matches to be competitive nonetheless.

"For Trinity we're preparing to have another tough set of matches," said Ling. "For us, we welcome that competitive style of game that Trinity brings to us—it'll be a competitive game." He added that he's also confident that the struggles the Pandas have faced late in the season against the Dinos and Wesmen were a good thing for the squad, keeping them in the competitive spirit heading into the playoffs.

Opening serve for this weekend's matches—the Pandas' last home matches of the year—is scheduled for 8:15pm tomorrow and 6:30pm on Saturday, both in the Main Gym.

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EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Gateway is accepting applications for the position of Editor-in-Chief for the 2005/2006 publishing year. The term runs from 1 May 2005 to 30 April 2006 and pays $1475/mo* from mid-August to April. Applicants must plan to be enrolled at the U of A in at least one class per semester for the 2005/2006 school year; must be available to work varying hours; must have computer and layout skills; and will preferrably have been a Gateway editor, or possess equivalent leadership and editorial experience.** Applicants should submit a covering letter, resumé and a portfolio to **Gateway Business Manager (Don Iveson, 492-6669, biz@gateway.ualberta.ca) by noon on Friday 4 March 2004.** Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an interview.

GENERAL STAFF MEETING

All current Gateway volunteers are asked to attend a General Staff Meeting where volunteer representatives for the Editor-in-Chief and Line Editor hiring committees will be selected. Those with three or more contributions to the Gateway in the last eight months are eligible both to run for, and vote on, these volunteer rep positions. Please be at the Gateway offices at **4:00 on Thursday the 17th of February** or be square.

* Pay will be adjusted for CPI over the summer and may increase.
** Complete job descriptions (subject to change) are available at www.gateway.ualberta.ca/hiring/

THE GATEWAY

VARSITY STATS

Men's Hockey

Canada West standings
Mountain Division

Team	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	P
y-**Alberta**	24	20	3	1	122	51	41
x-Calgary	24	9	10	5	83	80	23
UBC	24	5	14	5	67	100	15
Lethbridge	24	3	19	2	61	128	8

Great Plains Division

Team	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	P
x-Saskatchewan	24	16	5	3	100	70	35
x-Manitoba	26	15	6	5	98	67	35
Regina	26	5	16	5	72	105	15

x-Clinched playoff spot (top six overall qualify)
y-Clinched first place in division

Schedule

Friday
UBC @ **Alberta** 7:30pm

Saturday
UBC @ **Alberta** 7:30pm

Women's Hockey

Canada West standings

Team	G	W	L	T	GF	GA	P
y-**Alberta**	18	18	0	0	105	12	36
x-Regina	18	10	7	1	59	51	21
Manitoba	18	7	10	1	38	49	15
Saskatchewan	18	5	11	2	37	60	12
UBC	18	5	11	2	33	60	12
Lethbridge	18	4	10	4	35	64	12

x-Clinched playoff spot (top four qualify)
y-Clinched first place

Schedule

Friday
UBC @ **Alberta** 4pm

Saturday
UBC @ **Alberta** 4pm

Women's Basketball

Canada West standings

Team	G	W	L	F	A	P
y-Simon Fraser	18	18	0	1295	933	36
x-Winnipeg	18	15	3	1316	1002	30
x-Regina	18	12	6	1168	1089	24
x-UBC	18	11	7	1164	995	22
x-Saskatchewan	18	10	8	1311	1197	20
x-Victoria	18	10	8	1102	1047	20
x-Manitoba	18	10	8	1348	1184	20
Alberta	18	8	10	1191	1270	16
Calgary	18	7	11	1116	1171	14
Lethbridge	18	6	12	1211	1315	12
Trinity Western	18	1	17	944	1233	2
Brandon	18	0	18	750	1480	0

x-Clinched playoff spot (top eight qualify)
y-Clinched first place

Schedule

Friday
Alberta @ Simon Fraser 7:15pm
Brandon @ Calgary 6pm

Saturday
Alberta @ Trinity Western 7pm
Regina @ Calgary 6pm

Men's Volleyball

Canada West standings
Mountain Division

Team	MP	W	L	GW	GL	P
z-**Alberta**	18	17	1	53	12	34
x-TWU	18	14	4	48	24	28
UBC	18	8	10	33	36	16
Calgary	18	6	12	21	41	12

x-Clinched playoff spot (top three in each division qualify)
z-Clinched first place overall

Schedule

Friday
Trinity Western @ **Alberta** 6:30pm

Saturday
Trinity Western @ **Alberta** 8:15pm

Men's Basketball

Canada West standings
Central Division

Team	G	W	L	F	A	P
x-Calgary	18	11	7	1424	1293	22
x-Saskatchewan	18	11	7	1463	1441	22
x-**Alberta**	18	11	7	1324	1186	22
Lethbridge	18	6	12	1324	1441	12

x-Clinched playoff spot (top three in each division qualify)

Schedule

Friday
Alberta @ Simon Fraser 9:15pm
Brandon @ Calgary 8pm
Saskatchewan @ Trinity Western 9pm

Saturday
Alberta @ Trinity Western 9pm
Regina @ Calgary 8pm
Saskatchewan @ Simon Fraser 7:15pm

Women's Volleyball

Canada West standings

Team	MP	W	L	GW	GL	P
y-Calgary	20	20	0	60	19	40
x-Winnipeg	18	15	3	49	17	30
x-UBC	18	15	3	48	17	30
x-**Alberta**	18	11	7	43	25	22
x-TWU	18	8	10	34	39	16
x-Regina	18	7	11	26	36	14
Manitoba	18	4	14	18	45	8
Simon Fraser	18	1	17	17	53	2
Saskatchewan	18	1	17	8	53	2

x-Clinched playoff spot (top six qualify)
y-Clinched first place

Schedule

Friday
Trinity Western @ **Alberta** 8:15pm

Saturday
Trinity Western @ **Alberta** 6:30pm

Track teams at home for High Performance Meet

Last home action of the season for the second-ranked Bears and sixth-ranked Pandas.

PAUL OWEN
Sports Writer

Canadian athletes may have failed to bring home a medal from the Olympics this summer, but that is not a problem facing the U of A's two track teams as they head into the High Performance Meet this weekend at the Butterdome.

The second-ranked Bears and sixth-ranked Pandas have shocked head coach Georgette Reed with their strong early-season performances right across the board, a trend Reed hopes will continue this weekend.

"Our athletes have done well at every track they've been at this year—Saskatoon, Winnipeg, here—so I wouldn't be surprised if we had some more personal bests, but I know we're really not at our taper yet," she said.

Fresh off their CIS cross-country bronze in the fall, distance runners Robbie Nissen, Adrian Lambert and Mike Metcalfe anchor the Bears—providing what Reed called a "triple threat in Canada West"—along with sprinters Antoine Boussombo, Neville Wright and Ryan Adams. But it's thrower Matt Doherty and his Panda counterparts Jenilee Way and Melissa These that have really impressed Reed.

"I'm so proud of my throwers. I mean, I put huge demands on them and I'm probably harder on my athletes than the other coaches, so I'm really happy for them; I'm happy to see—especially Melissa—really break out this year," said Reed, a 14-time national shot-put and two-time discus champion.

Reed also raved about her strong women pole vaulters—Sue Kupper has jumped over four metres this season, putting her in the top five nationally, according to Reed—and rookies Jenny Hockin and Brian Roppelt, who have both won races this season, and she's looking forward to watching them against tougher competition. Cross-country all-Canadian Lindsay Acheson, meanwhile, is still running through her best season ever, shaving even more time off personal bests.



FILE PHOTO: JAMES LEUNG

ON TRACK The Bears and Pandas are having a strong season, and they have one more home meet.

"Lindsay Acheson has talent she doesn't even know she has," said Reed.

The early season results have flat-out shocked Reed, who said she didn't realize the depth and talent of her squad.

"I'm surprised already that with the workloads that they've had that they've done so well already," she admitted. "I think they're all ahead of the game. But I honestly think we probably underestimated ourselves and didn't realize the talent that we all had, and now all of a sudden these kids are showing us we're a lot more talented than we thought they were and maybe they thought they were."

Events are scheduled to start at 4pm tomorrow and 9am Saturday in the Butterdome.

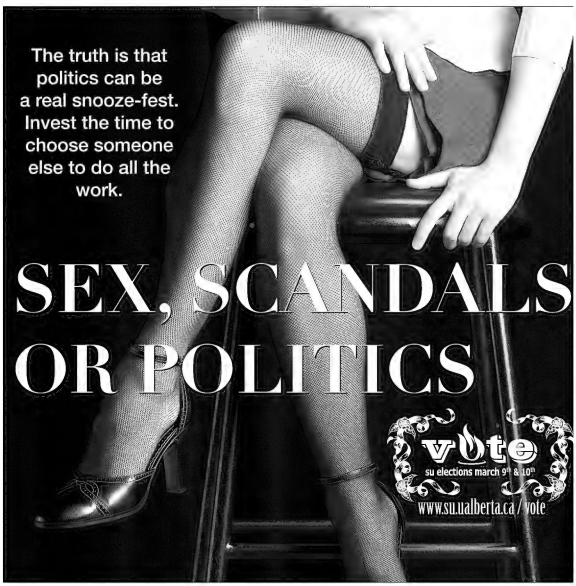
SPORTS SHORTS

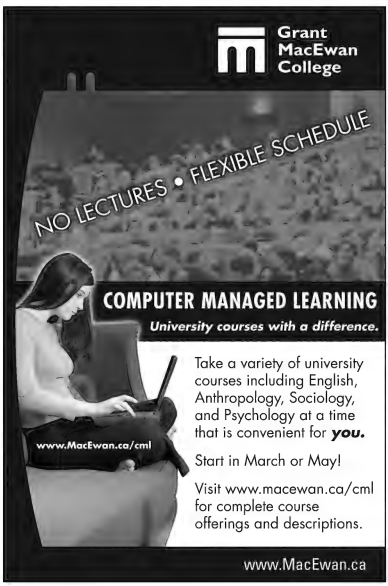
Women's Basketball

The Pandas (8–10) travel to BC this weekend to finish off their regular season, hoping to retain the eighth and final Canada West playoff spot, which they currently hold with a one-game lead over the Calgary Dinos (7–11). Calgary won the season series against Alberta, so the Pandas will need to stay ahead of the Dinos to earn the playoff berth. The Pandas will be heavy underdogs in their Friday-night game against the undefeated and top-ranked Simon Fraser Clan (18–0), and heavy favourites in Saturday's game versus the Trinity Western Spartans (1–17). The Dinos, meanwhile, will be heavy favourites in their game at home against the winless Brandon Bobcats (0–18); if those three games go as expected, the playoff race will be decided by Saturday night's game in Calgary between the unranked Dinos and the fifth-ranked Regina Cougars (12–6).

Men's Basketball

The Golden Bears (11–7) also travel to BC this weekend for their final two regular-season games. They've already clinched a playoff berth, but are in a battle for first place in the Central Division with the Calgary Dinos and Saskatchewan Huskies, who both enter the weekend tied with the Bears for first. However, the Bears would lose the tiebreaker against either or both teams, so they need to finish ahead of both to claim top spot, which would give them a bye to, and home-court advantage in, the division final. The Bears will visit the Simon Fraser Clan (8–10) tomorrow and the Trinity Western Spartans (6–12) on Saturday, while the tenth-ranked Huskies will face the same teams on opposite nights. The Dinos will host the seventh-ranked Brandon Bobcats (14–4)—the highest-ranked Canada West squad—tomorrow, and the Regina Cougars (11–7) on Saturday. In the event of a three-way tie after this weekend, the Dinos would claim first place, the Huskies second and the Bears third.





SOCIAL INTERCOURSE



Electra
Directed by Jonathan Christenson
Timms Centre
10–19 February

A horrific crime, bloody revenge, tragic irony: sound like your love life? Even if it doesn't, there's no excuse for you to avoid this production, a classic tale of emotional glory and defeat preformed by the University's own BFA acting students.

The story follows Electra, a strong-minded woman who must perform a horrendously immoral act in order to avenge her father's murder. Written by Sophocles some 2000 years ago, the play is still a hit with theatre patrons today. Also, it's a great Valentine's Day date idea.



Dateless and Damn Proud
Red's
Monday, 14 February at 7pm

Are you sad and bitter because the love of your life has recently dumped you to "find themselves" after three-and-a-half years of seemingly blissful dating? Me too.

This Valentine's Day, let's both ditch the Kleenex and voodoo dolls and come together for Dateless and Damn Proud, Red's spectacular yearly event for fantastic singles such as ourselves. This is the ideal opportunity for you to stop feeling sorry for yourself and start meeting prospective cuddle partners while you shake it up on the dance floor. Other perks include free admission before 9pm, a free Red's VIP pass, and a chance to win a big-screen TV. You know, the kind you won't be watching *The Notebook* on this Monday night.



The Vagina Monologues
Horowitz Theatre
Monday, 14 February at 8pm

Valentine's, you're no longer the only V-Day around. A short while ago, Obie Award winner Eve Ensler changed the face of the calendar forever, and it has everything to do with her infamous play, *The Vagina Monologues*.

A global movement to help stop violence against women and raise awareness about alarming issues like rape, battery and sexual slavery, V-Day also aims to raise money for the much-needed revitalization of struggling anti-violence movements around the world. From Asia to North America, women come together in theatre productions, large-scale gatherings and other campaigns hoping to make their message heard.

This Monday's performance is your chance to show a little heart and support this ambitious cause.

ASIA SZKUDLAREK
SWF seeking QT-Pie



The writing's on the wall

Local rockers Superseed dig their latest record, *Writing Words*, but they've come a long way since their first release

Superseed
with The Schematics, The Night Life and Foster Powerplant
Saturday, 12 February at 8pm

MICHAEL LAROCQUE
Arts & Entertainment Writer

For most musicians, a first album is a labour of love that's not only a work of art, but a polished product of their sweat and blood.

But for other bands, like Edmonton rock quartet Superseed, a first record can serve as a testament to a group's awkward journey to becoming a seasoned, mature local act.

"Let's not talk about the first record," laughs Superseed's front man and chief songwriter Cory Burgett.

"Our first album was flawed in the sense that we had some lineup issues. Our then-drummer had a 'been there, done that' attitude. Both he and our old guitar player reacted emotionally to any changes to their parts on a track. I mean, he's a fucking drummer! I'm the songwriter and I have open arms to the suggestions of everyone in the room, and the fucking drummer just says 'I don't like this' and walks out on the session."

"I re-recorded the guitar parts and the end result was a glimpse of a band that might be able to do something, but it was an unnatural and forced production," says Burgett. "I don't look fondly upon the end result of the first album; it's a record that doesn't connect with anybody."

Despite Burgett's criticism of his first effort, the band—whose sound combines harder rock with a finely balanced mix of guitar, drums and vocals—has impressed audiences and critics, gaining them the approval of local disc jockeys and the goodwill of the local media.

Now, after a lineup change that brought about two less ego-driven members, the band has produced a second album, *Writing Words*, that Burgett treasures as a satisfactory finished product. The single "Grace Us" earned the band national exposure when it placed them in the finals at the Canadian Music Week songwriting contest.

"We try to make every song a step forward for us, and *Writing Words* was a big step forward. The turnaround time on a song for us used to be three months with the old lineup. Now it only takes us three rehearsals," he says. "All the pieces fit and everything is going really well for us. We have over 35 originals and all the songs for our next EP written."

The band is already receiving offers from management and PR companies across Canada, and with the ability to pull off what looks like three albums in as many years, Superseed is set to do big things outside of Edmonton in the near future.

Burgett agrees, but keeping in tune with being his own harshest critic, he still thinks that Superseed's best work is yet to come.

"Each song we write is better than the last one, and 'Grace Us' has been picked up by a lot of radio stations across Canada," he remarks. "This record is really momentum-building, but the next one is what we're going to be shoving in everyone's face."

Matchmaker, matchmaker, make me a date movie

Hitch
Directed by Andy Tennant
Starring Will Smith, Eva Mendes, Kevin James, Amber Valletta and Julie Ann Emery
Opens Friday, 11 February

GRAHAM PARSONS
Arts & Entertainment Writer

"Any man has the ability to sweep any woman off her feet. All he needs is the right broom."

It's with this "witty" metaphor that we come to know Alex Hitchens (Will Smith), a mack-daddy for hire who teaches the ancient art of wooing with lessons like "How to Spy On Her So You Can Pretend to Have Common Interests," and "How Not to Dance Like a White Guy." Despite a low-profile, strictly referral way of doing business that protects those he's helped, Hitch is wildly successful, with a Rolodex full of clients now leading happy lives with their objects of affection.

His latest customer is Albert (*King of Queens*' Kevin James), who has set his sights astronomically high on beautiful, wealthy socialite (allergy medicine heiress?) Allegra (Amber Valletta). Hitch is up to the challenge. But in keeping with the "those who can't do, teach" axiom, he just can't seem to find the right one to settle down with, and is growing weary of all the casual sex that New York has to offer.

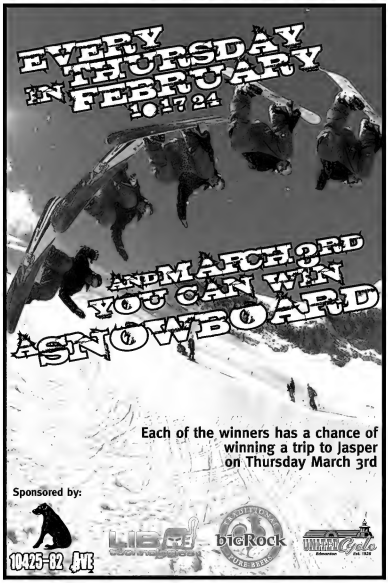
This may all change after he meets Sara (Eva Mendes), who's a gossip columnist and therefore just as well versed as he in the love lives of other people. Will Hitch be able to help Albert overcome his lameness? Will he and Sara blossom as lovers, despite the detached cynicism with which both view their courtship? Will everything fall apart as Sara gets closer to tracking down a lead on the "date doctor" rumour floating around water coolers everywhere?

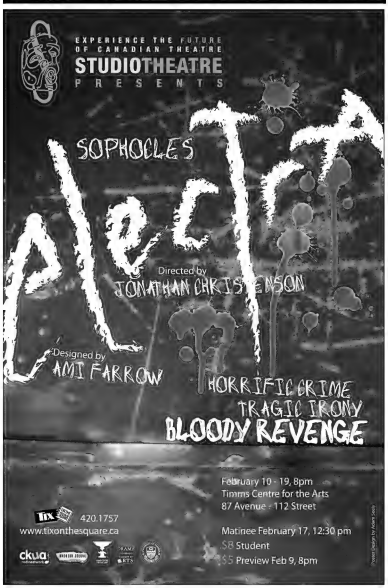
Hitch can't really decide if it's trying to be a guy's movie about chicks or a chick-flick about love, but this blend seems to be a recipe for date-movie success.

I could continue mocking this movie's many clichés, but hoping a movie directed by Andy Tennant (*Sweet Home Alabama*, *Fools Rush In*) and starring America's urban sweetheart, Will Smith, will depart from what's worked hundreds of times before is a pointless expectation. Of course it will end happily, with the important moral that being yourself is the best way to happiness in a relationship. After you've gotten over this hurdle, you'll probably find *Hitch* pretty darn funny. Will Smith plays himself, as he has in virtually all of his movies regardless of situation, a pigeonhole that isn't necessarily a bad thing (see John Cusack). He doesn't allow his pompous persona to get out of hand, and actually allows quite a few scenes to be stolen by James, who establishes himself in his first proper film role with a kind of Farley-esque flailing-physical-comedy vibe. Mendes is also enjoyable, in addition to being nice to look at, with a kind of bubbly exuberance that borders on annoying but is mostly endearing.

Hitch can't really decide if it's trying to be a guy's movie about chicks or a chick-flick about love, but this blend seems to be a recipe for date-movie success. So if you're a guy, go up to that girl you've been staring at since September, and while looking at her eyes instead of her chest, ask if she'd like to see this with you. You'll probably enjoy yourselves.









Kicking movie, uh, kicks ass

Ong-Bak: The Thai Warrior
Directed by Prachya Pinkaew
Starring Tony Jaa,
Petchtai Wongkamlao and
Pumwaree Yodkamol
Opens Friday, 11 February

DANIEL KASZOR
Production Editor

Simply put, *Ong-Bak: The Thai Warrior* is the greatest kicking movie ever made. Star Tony Jaa's amazing skill at doing fantastic things with his feet, knees or elbows makes the film—despite its rather forgettable story and cheap production values—a must-see event.

The loose collection of events that move the action forward posing as a story in *Ong-Bak* are thus: seedy business men from urban Thailand are travelling to small rural villages to extort priceless religious artifacts out of the peasants and sell them on the black market. When one village elder refuses to part with the Buddha statue Ong-Bak, the thugs steal the statue's head during the night. It is up to the village's top monk-in-training, Ting (Tony Jaa) to go to the city and kick ass with his mad Muay Thai fighting "skillz."

The story is breezy and forgettable, but it succeeds where many Asian action yarns fail: it works efficiently to propel the beautiful chorography of the fight sequences. And they are beautiful. While the film starts slowly, it isn't too long before Jaa is taking on all challengers

In one of the first action sequences in the film, Jaa not only jumps over five street thugs, but slides under a car while doing the splits, only to then cartwheel between two panes of glass and dive through a loop of razor wire. And unlike many films of this genre, *Ong-Bak* just keeps increasing the audaciousness of the stunts from there—all of which were done without wires or computer graphic touch-ups, making them even more amazing.

The film isn't perfect, however; those who wish to see more than an action movie will be disappointed. *Ong-Bak* doesn't even come close to transcending its genre; it's a lighthearted action movie, pure and simple. The single attempt at drama near the end comes off seeming like a joke instead of the poignant moment that it was supposed to be.

For those who have already seen this film on imported video, the version that's playing in theatres has been slightly re-cut by Luc Besson (*Fifth Element, Leon: The Professional*) with new music inserted into the fight sequences.

The new cut ups the pace of the movie by removing a few subplots, but the amount of material moved around is rather nominal; both cuts of the film are fairly similar.

The new music isn't great, but the original music wasn't great either, so the sum total of the auditory change is more a missed opportunity than a travesty.

Whether you've seen it before or not, *Ong-Bak* is worth seeing on the big screen. They simply don't make action movies like this in North America. There are commercials for *Ong-Bak* with members of the Wu Tang clan pimping the film as the "real deal" and they're right; pure action movies like this without special-effects tricks don't come around very often, and ones that pull off their stunts as well as *Ong-Bak* almost never. The fact that this small Thai film has even gotten wide release here should show its quality. Just see the film before Tony Jaa is brought over to Hollywood and forced to star in a movie with Chris Tucker.

A *Tale* of unmatchable horror

A Tale of Two Sisters balances the eeriness of humanity and the supernatural

A Tale of Two Sisters
Directed by Ji-woon Kim
Starring Kap-su Kim, Jung-ah Yum,
Geun-yeong Mun and Su-jeong Lim
Metro Cinema
14–18 Feburary at 9pm

LEAH ANDERSON
Arts & Entertainment Writer

A Tale of Two Sisters is a haunting movie that resembles other horror movies as much as the sun resembles a cheap, dollar-store nite light. The film's beautiful visuals and suspenseful story of two sisters who return to a cruel home after spending time in a mental institution is eerie in a way unmatched by other films in the genre.

Director Ji-woon Kim has a cinematographer's eye for scene composition, which raises this movie into the realm of art. The movie's long camera shots are particularly striking. Right from the first scene, the director establishes a calm, almost dull atmosphere with scenes that involve more stillness and silence than action and dialogue.

A psychiatrist interviewing a non-responsive girl in a giant hospital wing, or a girl walking calmly through the forest: these are not scenes that inspire terror, yet they serve a far greater purpose. These shots force the audience to lower its guard and pay great attention to small details. A gradual and skillful climb from this serene existence to a chaotic and confusing climax assaults the mind with its rapid cuts and brutal images.

The slow buildup of tension in the film is paralleled in the plot. The story of sisters Soo-mi (Su-jeoung Lim) and Soo-yeon (Geun-yeong Mun) is not told in a linear fashion, and it's not really until the very end of the movie that everything falls into place and everything that has been going on inside the oppressive house is understood. In the beginning, there are quick interchanges that show us how the girls and their stepmother don't get along, but there's no flashback explaining why until the denouement of the film. As we near the climax the audience is consumed with the desire to know why this is all happening—heightening the viewer's attention to detail as they're desperate to pick out any clues.

But Kim's success in storytelling wouldn't be possible without the film's talented cast of actors. The majority of the film is carried by Su-jeong Lim, who portrays a girl who wants to take the place of her own mother to her father and sister, and is losing her grip on reality. Kap-su Kim as the sisters' father is easily overlooked among the performances of the women in the film, but his emotional distance is crucial to the understanding of the other characters, and he tempers that distance with honest concern for his family.

The rare sense of reality found in this horror movie really draws the audience in, making them care for the family. The supernatural element takes a backseat here, and the movie is driven by human evils. If only for that, *A Tale of Two Sisters* is a film to see as it brilliantly balances its terrors between the dark side of humanity and the things that go bump in the night.

One man's *Pinkerton* is another man's *Bellaclava*

Limblifter's Ryan Dahle is going to keep creating the records he wants to hear no matter what the rock snobs of the world have to say

Limblifter
with This Civil Twilight and Doubting Paris
New City Suburbs
Thursday, 17 February

JASON LEE NORMAN
Arts & Entertainment Writer



You'd think Ryan Dahle's a guy who has it all: he makes music for a living, has all the scotch and Kinder Eggs he can consume and he just happens to be the force behind one of the most lyrically explorative and sonically pleasing pop-rock acts in Canada. His only problem is that in an industry where you're only as good as the last thing you released, you're never quite sure which side of the popular-opinion fence your next record will land on.

As a side project from Age of Electric, Limblifter achieved more than modest success with their first self-titled record. But with the release of their second, *Bellaclava*, things got "interesting."

"People had called [*Bellaclava*] our *Pinkerton*," says Dahle. "And in many ways it became our *Black Album*."

Dahle's comparison of Limblifter's sophomoric effort to that of Weezer's goes far beyond just describing the travails of trying to follow up a commercial success; a statement like that can open up huge philosophical debates among music fans where one man's *Pinkerton* can be another man's, well, *Pinkerton*.

After the release of *Bellaclava*, Dahle experienced what other bands from Aerosmith to Weezer have also experienced, where a new record can seem so creatively pleasing and musically pure, yet the fans don't seem to gel with it the way you had hoped.

The way *Bellaclava* was received did not do all that much to discourage or disappoint Dahle and his then-bandmate and brother Kurt, however.

"When Kurt and I finished the record, we knew it wouldn't do very well. It is a pretty complicated and strange record in a lot of ways; not very accessible."

While the debate over *Bellaclava*'s merits raged on, Limblifter moved into another phase of its development as Dahle's brother Kurt moved on to work on other things and Ryan was left to keep Limblifter moving forward but without the only drummer he'd ever worked with.

"When [Kurt] left I kind of didn't know what to do for awhile, and I had to learn to become comfortable playing with new people again," explains Dahle.

Limblifter's third release, *I/O*, is the product of Dahle's coping process. When speaking about the record, Dahle tries to explain how it may help close the gap between the band's first and second efforts, noting it "sounds like the record that came in between." By staying true to a simpler style on this record (it was recorded live to tape), Dahle says it brought back a lot of the spontaneity that was in their first release.

And while fans may debate Dahle's statements and argue about whether the first album was better than the third or the second better than the first, Dahle isn't about to give them any concessions. He's going to keep making the records that he wants to make.

Affirmative-action packed

The Yes Men
Directed by Chris Smith, Dan Ollman and Sarah Price
Starring Mike Bonanno and Andy Bichlbaum
Metro Cinema
11–14 February at 7pm

PATRICK ROSS
Arts & Entertainment Writer



"We're like Santa Claus, only less radical," says Mike Bonanno, of himself and his partner-in-Yes, Andy Bichlbaum. The two star in *The Yes Men*, a film about Bonanno and Bichlbaum's activist/comedic campaign against the World Trade Organization.

As for that quote, here's a little context: part of the film documents an adventure at the Barbie Liberation Organization. Some may (or may not) remember hearing a little rumour about a group that purchased hundreds of talking Barbies and GI Joes and then switched the toys' electronic voice boxes so that the Barbies would bark GI Joe dialogue and vice-versa. The *coup de grace* of this stunt was smuggling these toys back onto store shelves to be sold once more. The Yes Men were in on this stunt, and their movie is full of similar mayhem.

While the ultimate motive of the Barbie stunt is never explained, the Yes Men's overall *modus operandi* is made perfectly clear: they are agitators.

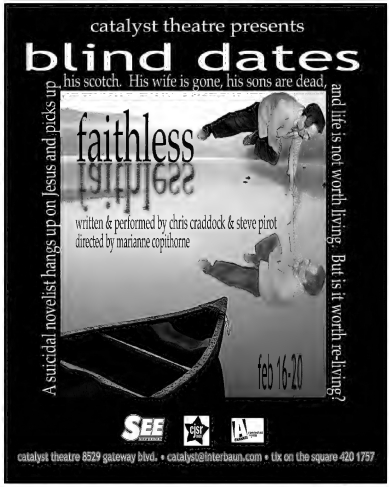
The film, though, particularly focuses on the group's "identity correction" campaign—a campaign against the World Trade Organization that seeks to wash away the respectable veneer of the WTO (and the corporate world in general) to reveal its complete lack of humanity. The group does this by mixing a wide variety of elements, from phallic humour to outrageous spectacle. Eventually, the Yes Men's mayhem pushes the boundaries of fraud as they impersonate WTO personnel. It's hilarious but uncomfortably devious.

There's a funny side and an ugly/unethical side to *The Yes Men*. Take one scene where the duo proposes that McDonald's recycle human waste into hamburgers. It may seem at least a little bit funny, but when an economics professor tells his class that this is an actual joint McDonald's/WTO proposal the Yes Men's joke becomes extremely unethical. Regardless, the reaction of the Yes Men's audience is worth its weight in poo-burgers—the scene is a gross-out *Supersize Me* could only dream of.

For a movie about what is right and wrong in the corporate world, the filmmakers all too often lecture the audience with their interpretation of ethics, instead of allowing their effectively and cleverly proposed arguments to influence the audience.

What eventually comes across is yet another preachy, arguably disingenuous anti-globalization film, with an inexplicable Michael Moore cameo thrown in for good measure.







Cherry Bomb wants to explode onto the scene

Vancouver pop-rockers struggle for success, get kicks doing their hair and makeup along the way

Cherry Bomb
with Easily Amused and Colleen Brown
Sidetrack Café
Friday, 18 February at 8pm

TYSON KABAN
Arts & Entertainment Writer

It was fate that first lit Cherry Bomb's fuse six years ago at an open-mic night in Vancouver. A night of firsts for the pop duo's Vicki Sjohall soon became the night that she and bandmate Jenny Galt began making beautiful music together.

"I had just started playing my own music and it was my first time playing guitar," Sjohall says. "I sang first and Jenny came up to me after and said that I had an amazing voice. I ended up going up on stage for her set and singing harmonies on one of her songs that I'd never even heard before. We just clicked right off the bat, musically and personally."

> **"In one way we are very marketable to young, pretty girls. We certainly have girlie-girl aspects: we like to do our hair and doing our makeup."**
>
> **JENNY GALT, CHERRY BOMB**

The fortuitous partnership has resulted in a couple of EPs, a European tour and a full-length album slated to hit Canadian shelves in May. And while it would be easy to dismiss Cherry Bomb as another fat-free girl band, these ladies have crafted a sound and image all their own.

But letting their voices be heard hasn't been a piece of cake.

"One producer wanted us to do country and another guy wanted us to be an acoustic, adult-contemporary version of Céline Dion. It was hard to find a producer that didn't try to stifle our sound."

"We use keyboards, but aren't super angelic-y and soft; we still have an edge, a lot like Coldplay, and people have compared us to Alanis' breakthrough album, but ours is a little more polished," says Sjohall.

"But we're geared towards rock. If you're listening to rock radio today, you'll hear two female voices: Gwen Stefani and Amy Lee [of Evanescence]," she says.

"I wouldn't want to compare myself to Gwen, but when it comes to people like Avril Lavigne, I think we have more mature content, but still the same moodiness as they do. We try to write about more than just boys, even if it's not always easy."

"In one way we are very marketable to young, pretty girls," adds Galt. "We certainly have girlie-girl aspects: we like to do our hair and doing our makeup."

The duo has even managed to parlay their love of makeup into a sponsorship from Mac cosmetics.

"When you're a young band—if you can afford to be anti-sponsorship, all the power to you—but every dollar helps, and we haven't had to compromise anything at all. If anything, Mac's support has enhanced us because it's



makeup and that's what it does," jokes Sjohall.

Galt and Sjohall have had to struggle to get their music out, but they say it's all been worth it to get the chance to make a living doing what they love.

"There's nothing else that I could be doing but making music," Sjohall says. "It's something that I have wanted really bad. As a result, I've come to understand how to work really hard for something. Not desperate in the way that you're a loser, but if you're not desperate to succeed, it's probably not going to happen. Success is definitely hard."



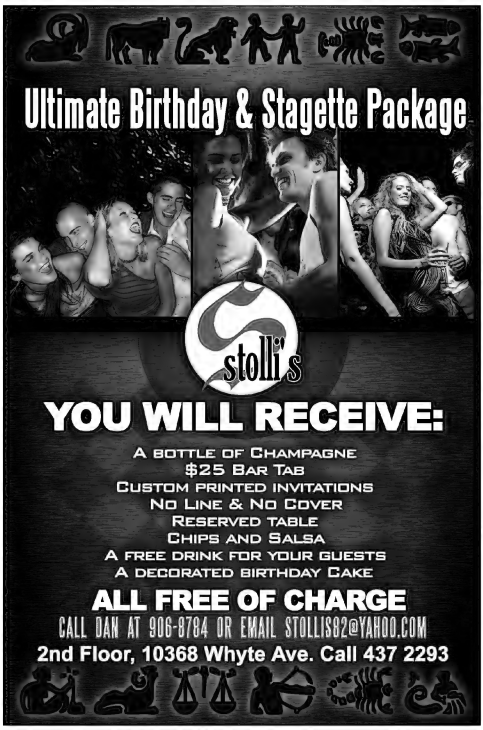
Chemical Brothers
Push the Button
Virgin
www.thechemicalbrothers.com

GRAHAM PARSONS
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Back when Fatboy Slim became Fratboy Slim and "Rockafella Skank" was heard wherever a keg was tapped, the Chemical Brothers' brand of big-beat electronica was ruefully dubbed equally passé.

But the Chemical Brothers have shirked progression and made another quintessentially Chemical Brothers album, *Push the Button*—and they seem to have had a pretty swell time doing it. Their formula of brash, bass-heavy concoctions, with enough levity to remind you that taking them too seriously is kind of missing the point, are as prominent as ever. Highlights include the Q-Tip assisted "Galvanize," and a few of those obligatory beats-with-a-quote sample songs that Strongbad seems to like—which isn't necessarily a bad thing.

Also here is the requisite consciousness-expanding chill track, this time in the form of "Marvo Ging," which sounds like a blissful hoedown with sitars substituted for banjos. The Brothers may not be moving their medium upwards to strange new levels, but that wasn't ever their mission statement. Enjoy this one for what it is.



ALBERTA HERITAGE FOUNDATION FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

2005 media fellowship program

Application deadline: March 15, 2005

Application forms available at:

- Career and Placement Services
- Faculty of Engineering
- Faculty of Science
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The Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research (AHFMR) Media Fellowship Program gives one senior student at an Alberta university the chance to help a local media outlet communicate science and health news to the public. Preference will be given to students who have a strong biomedical science background.

Excellent writing, communication, and interpersonal skills are a must for this challenging 12-week summer internship.

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The Mark Inside
Static/Crash
Sofa King Records
markinside.com

ADAM GAUMONT
Arts & Entertainment Writer

In extracting a fresh sound from the seemingly dry well that is the punk-infused rock genre, The Mark Inside seem to have accomplished the impossible.

Relying on the straightforward, hard-driving rock n' roll formula recently reinvigorated by bands such as Jet, *Static/Crash* sees The Mark Inside carve out their own unique, guitar-driven sound while leaving fans of traditional rock with nothing to complain about.

The pace is set on this album with "Carousel," a rollicking and mosh-pit-dive-inducing opening track, and continues unabatedly throughout the album.

Songs such as "Sweet Little Sister," "Dead Already," and the explorative final combination of "Screaming; Drowning; Haunting" and "Buzzing" all show signs of creativity and musicianship, with the music continually straddling the line between consistent and repetitive.

This is edgy, fast-paced rock n' roll that's not afraid to explore new musical territory, but still manages to induce some good old-fashioned headbangin' and stereo crankin'.



Careworn
How Cunning These Blue Skies
Independent
www.careworn.ca

TONY SANTIN
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Careworn, formerly known as Nothing At All, has had some major successes in recent years, from opening for bands such as Hot Hot Heat and Hot Water Music to being voted 2003's Top Local Band in *See Magazine*'s annual readers poll. Now with a new name and a lineup including Monique Hoople of Pangina fame, Careworn appears poised to take on the world with their new album, *How Cunning These Blue Skies*.

The disc features what has become an almost signature Canadian power-pop sound. On tracks such as "Number One" and "Even Our Flesh Was Stardust," there's a similarity to early Moneen (but without the emoness). Careworn updates the emo genre: Hoople's vocals are a refreshing change from the typical frustrated-and-gonna-yell-about-it male lead. Their lyrics are able to incorporate an artful angle without compromising the music's pop sensibilities. *Blue Skies* could prove to be the breakthrough this band has been striving for.



Xzibit
Weapons of Mass Destruction
Columbia Records
xzibit.net

PATRICK ROSS
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Nothing brings higher expectations than an excellent reputation. As many artists learn, those expectations can be hardest to satisfy. But with *Weapons of Mass Destruction*, Xzibit manages just fine.

Easily among the best hip-hop releases of the past five years, *Weapons* blends a variety of influences, from soul and gospel to West Coast G-funk. Xzibit also bridges a range of subject matter, as the album features high-octane club tracks, fierce political commentary (including a "thug life" ballad about the war in Iraq) and menacing gangsta anthems.

All of these mix seamlessly via X's customary bass-laden beats which, as always, are among the highlights of the album.

Significantly showcased is Xzibit's unique talent to take rhymes that often are quite ordinary and, through his intense and intimidating delivery, make them sound extraordinary.

The greatest strength of *Weapons of Mass Destruction* is that it, like Xzibit himself, is always progressing. He has delivered a masterpiece that should silence his critics and keep his reputation intact.

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They want their geek TV

The Geek Show
Directed by Neil Grahn
Starring Neil Grahn and Wes Borg
Saturdays at 11:30pm (Access)
and Tuesdays at 10pm
(Canadian Learning Television)

ELIZABETH VAIL
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Neil Grahn had a dream. "I woke up one night and went, 'You know what'd be a great show? If Wes [Borg] had this thing at his house where he showed really funny websites!'"

Maybe it doesn't sound like much, but from this dream *The Geek Show* was born—a weekly half-hour semi-improvised show about what geeks like best: the Internet.

The show's been airing on Saturday and Tuesday evenings on Access and Canadian Learning Television since the fall, and, like most late-night public programming, it has a certain DIY quality. But Grahn doesn't mind.

> **"Sting is very, very funny. I'm not sure if Sting does know he's that funny, but if you used to be a teacher and now you're in your 40s and you're still going by the name Sting, that's funny."**
>
> **NEIL GRAHN, CREATOR, *THE GEEK SHOW***

"We wouldn't spend any more money on it, because part of the fun is that it's just at Wes' place and it's us hanging out with a small group of people," he explains. "A lot of money wouldn't help the show; it wouldn't make it any funnier."

During an intense seven days, all 13 episodes of the first season were shot in Borg's living room, complete with a musician on keyboard, a flashy "applause" sign that doesn't always work, and the biggest studio audience they could fit onto the living room sofa (which is to say, four people). Oh, and of course, a computer.

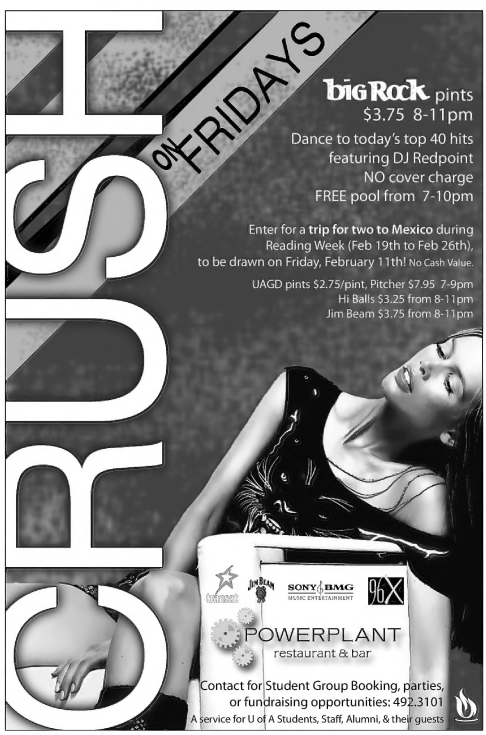


Each episode, Wes, the host, displays websites, flash animations and funny clips (featured sites have included homestarrunner.com and chickenhead.com). Grahn says the show's humour is influenced by *Wayne's World* (except that "We're fer real," Grahn jokes), *Monty Python*, and Sting ("Sting is very, very funny. I'm not sure if Sting does know he's that funny, but if you used to be a teacher and now you're in your 40s and you're still going by the name Sting, that's funny," says Grahn).

Given their late-night timeslot, Wes and Neil, who met while performing in the comedy troupe Three Dead Trolls in a Baggie, are counting on positive word of mouth to increase *The Geek Show*'s ratings. With a budget described by Neil as "being out of our own pocket," the two are more focused on working to achieve a fan base and second season than achieving fabulous wealth.

"I'm trying personally to be broke. If I can get up to zero where I don't owe anybody, and I'm just broke, that would be sweet; that would be the Zen state of financial nothingness," jokes Borg.

CRUSH ON FRIDAYS



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Dance to today's top 40 hits
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NO cover charge
FREE pool from 7-10pm

Enter for a **trip for two to Mexico** during Reading Week (Feb 19th to Feb 26th), to be drawn on Friday, February 11th! No Cash Value.

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Hi Balls $3.25 from 8-11pm
Jim Beam $3.75 from 8-11pm

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SU Health Plan Project

The Process

June	August	September	November	November	December	January	March
2004							2005
Students' Council, upon the request of the VP (Student Life), initiates the Health Plan Project.	A request for proposals is sent out to 5 different providers.	SU undertakes detailed review of provider proposals.	VP (Student Life) and VP (Ops and Finance), along with the GM, meet with representatives of the different companies and survey client schools.	Student Life Board begins 3 week deliberation process regarding potential provider, plan coverage, and cost.	Students' Council approves Student Life Board's recommendations.	Student survey conducted	Upcoming Referendum and SU General Elections

The Feedback

Over 450 SU members participated in the recent survey conducted on campus and online:

- 82% support the implementation of a SU Health Plan;
- 41% do not have an extended Health Plan;
- Students without an extended Health Plan spent over $6400.00 in health-care expenses last year;
- Prescription drug coverage was ranked as the #1 priority;
- 73% of students surveyed expressed an interest in a Dental Plan as well (one step at a time folks... but thanks for the heads up).

For more information, visit www.su.ualberta.ca/healthplan or come to the Health Plan Info Session in the Alumni Room, Feb. 16 at 5 p.m.

The Plan

Based on our research and student feedback, here are the highlights of the Plan coverage, to be decided by students in the March referendum:

Proposed Health Plan	Coverage
Prescription Drugs	· 80% coverage, Pay-Direct Card
Health Practitioners	· 100% coverage for visits to physiotherapists, chiropractors and registered massage therapists, to a maximum of $20 per visit, $300 per category of practitioner per policy year
Vision Care	· $50 per 24 months for eye exams AND $75 per 24 months for prescription eyeglasses or contact lenses
Travel Health Coverage	· up to $1,000,000 coverage, 60 days per trip, unlimited number of trips
Extended Health Care	· 80% coverage for medical services and equipment not covered by provincial health care, including emergency ambulance, upgrade to semi-private hospital room, crutches, braces, hearing aids and wheelchairs
Vaccinations	· 80% reimbursement, to an annual maximum of $150
Dental Accident	· 80% reimbursement, to an annual maximum of $1,000 per accident
Plan Cost	$115 per 12 months of coverage (September to August)

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA STUDENTS' UNION

Referendum. It's Your Choice.
Vote March 9-10

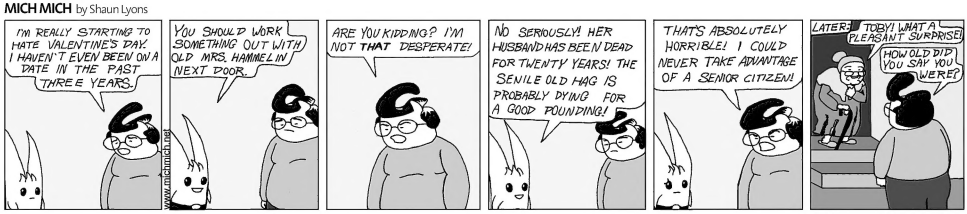
PRIMATOLOGY by Tony Esteves and Steve Waldman



HALEY'S COMIX by Mike Robertson



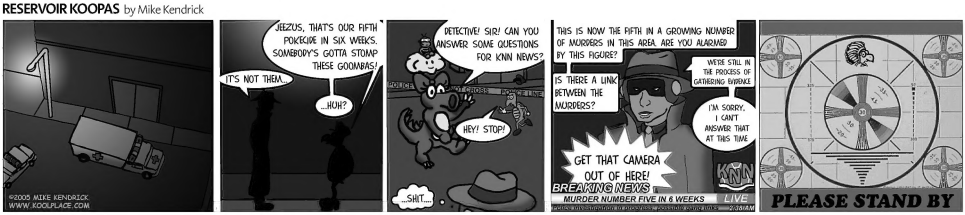
MICH MICH by Shaun Lyons



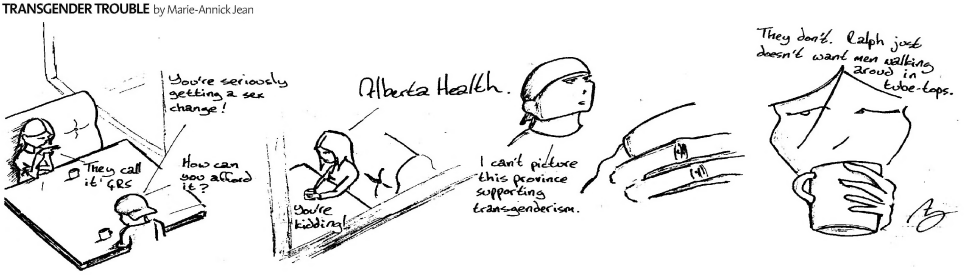
LOGIC PUZZLE by Scott C Bourgeois and James Storrie



RESERVOIR KOOPAS by Mike Kendrick



TRANSGENDER TROUBLE by Marie-Annick Jean







† NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Promotional Period: December 20, 2004 through March 11, 2005 at 11:59 PM (ET). Visit www.dentynecontests.com to enter the Dentyne Ice™ Heat up the Hill™ Promotion and Sweepstakes. Correct answer to skill-testing question required. See website for full prize details and Official Rules. Regular text messaging fees apply to entries into the Promotion or Sweepstakes by text messaging. PROMOTION: Open to residents of Canada who are 13yrs of age or older. Prizes: 50 x Oxygen® Snowboard boots (1 in 36,090, ARV $499.00), 100 x Boot Dryer boots (1 in 18,045, ARV $59.99), 100 x Hydration Pack boots (1 in 18,045, ARV $59.99), 250 x Porcelain Ski Hat boots (1 in 7,218, ARV $18.00). Limit of one (1) prize per person. The number of entries into the Promotion is limited and entry available only while the supply of game pieces lasts. SWEEPSTAKES: Open to residents of Canada who are the age of majority and older in their province of residence. Prizes: Five (5) Weekend Trips for three (3) to Banff, Alberta. Some restrictions apply. Approximate retail value (ARV) $6,000.00 (based on a Toronto departure). Odds of winning depend on the number of eligible entries received. Limit of one (1) prize per person.
†† Discount applies to lift tickets only for participating ski hills. Discount programs in effect from January 3, 2005 until the earlier of the close of the 2005 ski season or April 30, 2005. Restrictions and blackout periods may apply. See www.dentynecontests.com and click on the ski lift ticket icon for full program details. Discount can not be used in conjunction with any other discount or promotion.
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Non-profit out-of-school care seeks creative persons to work with school-aged children. $8–$10/hr. Call Kerri-Lynn at 484-7622, fax 486-1791 or e-mail easca@telusplanet.net. Come join the FUN!

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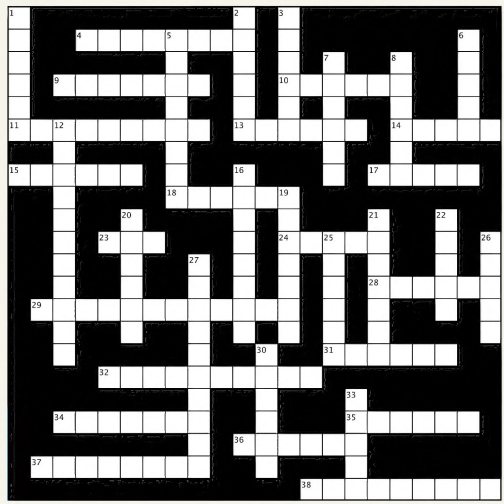
12 Things about you that make me smile: 1. Your Kiss 2. Your creativity (Treasure hunts leading to the 15th green—you're awesome!) 3. Your Attempts at humour .. sorry! 4. Your calls 5. Your Songs ("You belong to me") 6. Your patience and forgiveness. Look under your pillow for the rest of the list. Love, your Principessa.

Know azn Jeff @ McMaster doing OT? Go out w/ him New Year's Eve @ Union Hall? E-mail Me: champagnenights@hotmail.com.

CROSSWORD

The Sexword: *Compiled by Scott "Dr Sex" Bourgeois*

The Crossword runs every Thursday with answers in the following Tuesday issue



Across

4. The term for pornographic material that shows penetration and/or ejaculation.

9. Referring to a non-erect penis.

10. To create sexual interest, either through physical or mental stimulation.

11. When a man ejaculates in the final scene of a porn film.

13. Slang for oral sex, usually performed on a male.

14. A sexual practice that is deemed "off-limits" in a particular society.

15. Sexual contact with a member of one's immediate family.

17. Term for sexual activities that are seen as outside the norm.

18. The insertion of the penis into the anus.

23. Another slang term for a man's semen.

24. Slang for sucking the semen out of a partners anus.

28. When you know someone sexually, you are said to possess this type of knowledge.

29. Whipping and beating until orgasm is achieved.

31. The tantric sex term for female ejaculate.

32. The woman in charge of a BDSM relationship.

34. Japanese term for a sexual practice where several men ejaculate on the face of a single woman.

35. A male who has had his testicles removed.

36. A person who has never had sexual intercourse, or who is inexperienced in that area.

37. Trading sexual partners, usually within a group.

38. Deriving sexual pleasure from pain, humiliation or discipline.

Down

1. Deriving sexual pleasure from inflicting physical or emotional pain.

2. A fixation on an activity, object or part of the body.

3. A discharge of neuromuscular tension at the peak of sexual arousal that is usually accompanied by the ejaculation of semen in the male and by vaginal contractions in the female.

5. The small, nerve-dense area of skin located between the labia and the upper part of the vagina.

6. A sex toy, made of silicone, rubber or jelly, which is used for sexual pleasure by insertion into the vagina or anus.

7. An individual who receives sexual gratification from watching others engaged in sexual acts.

8. Japanese adult erotic art or cartoons.

12. A paraphilia where a person is extremely aroused by deceased individuals.

16. Term for a womanizer.

19. Intercourse in a mascot costume.

20. Slang for someone who frequents strip clubs, or watches a lot of porn.

21. The act of simultaneously inserting two fingers in the vagina, and one in the anus.

22. A slang term for the area between the scrotum and the anus.

25. Slang for an underage girl who has sex with an older man.

26. The primary sex organ of the female.

27. The "G" in G-Spot refers to this word.

30. A term meaning sexually stimulating, or arousing.

33. The male reproductive organ.